must
The Splend
the wonderfu
The hero of
He is a cook of curried food
The heroine is Sonezaki Yui
She is a high school student
Let's direct your attention t
カレー
華麗なる食卓
Addicted to curry
大阪の出会いと
一味違うカツカレー
ふなつ一輝
監修 森枝卓士(食文化研究家)

10

大阪の出会いと一味違うカツカレー

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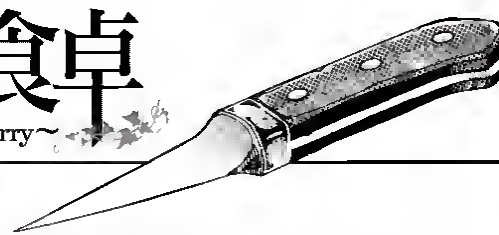
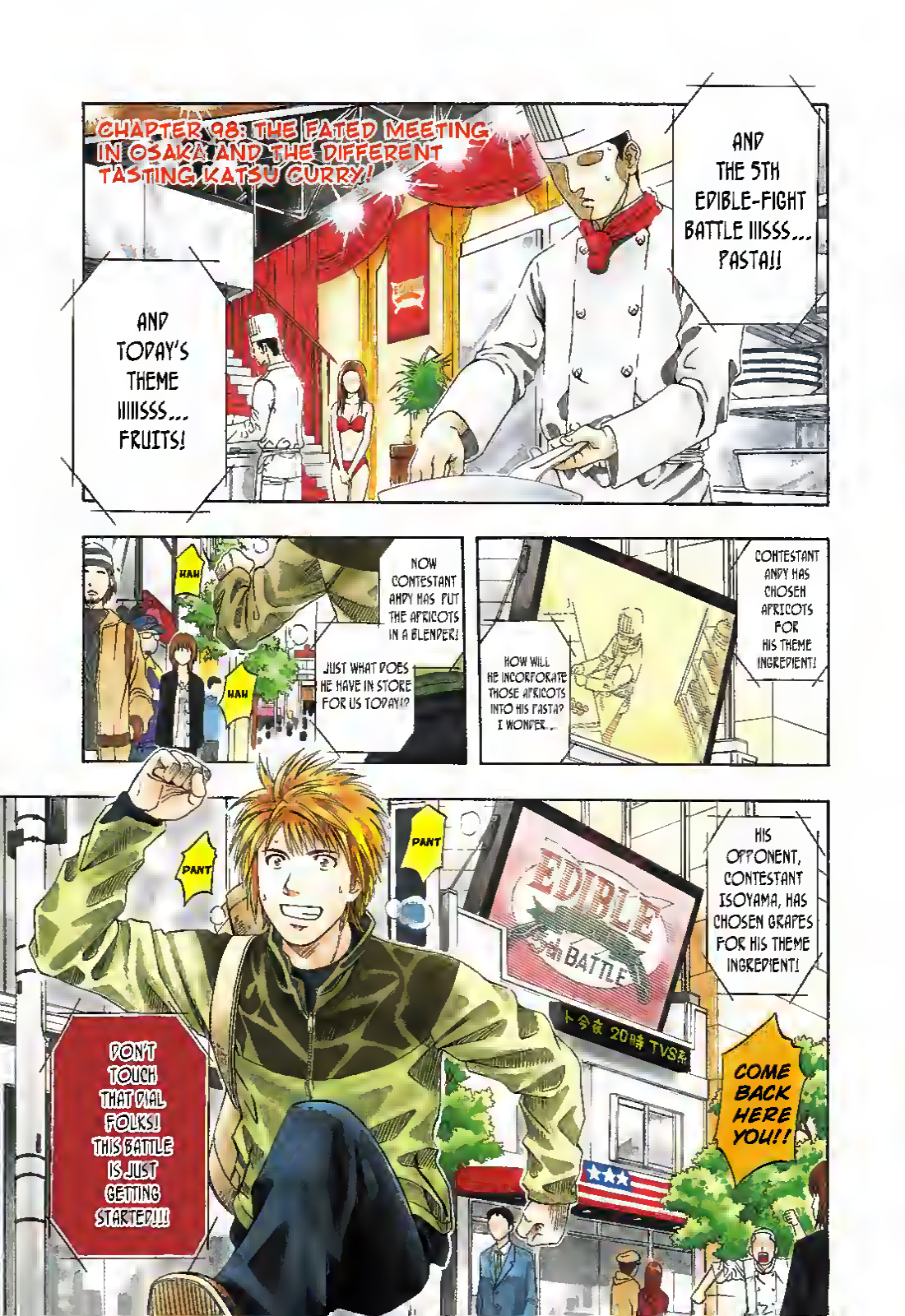
華麗なるカレー食卓
～Addicted to curry～



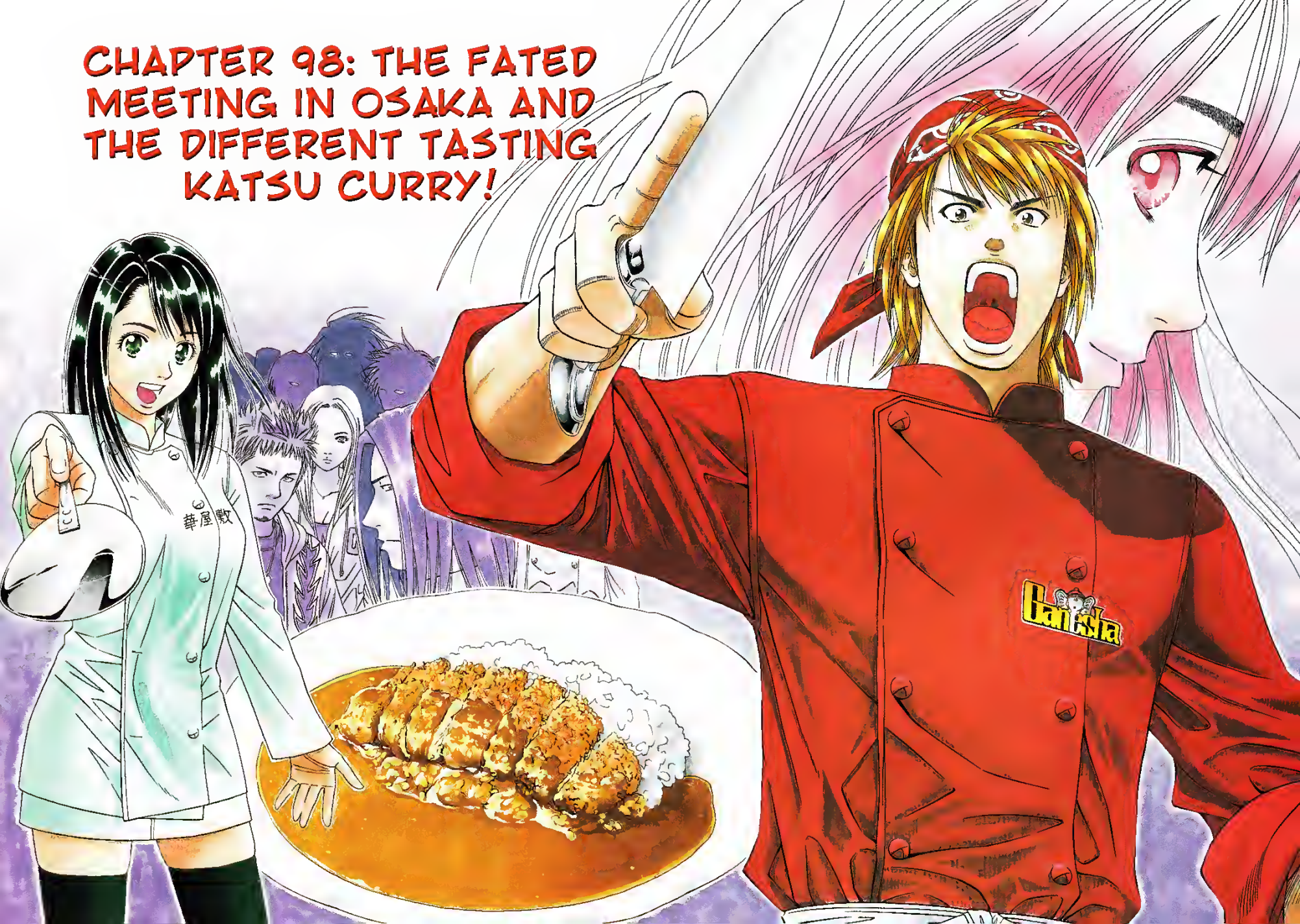
ふなつ一輝

監修/森枝卓士（食文化研究家）

★この作品はフィクションです。
実在の人物・団体・事件などにはいっさい関係ありません。

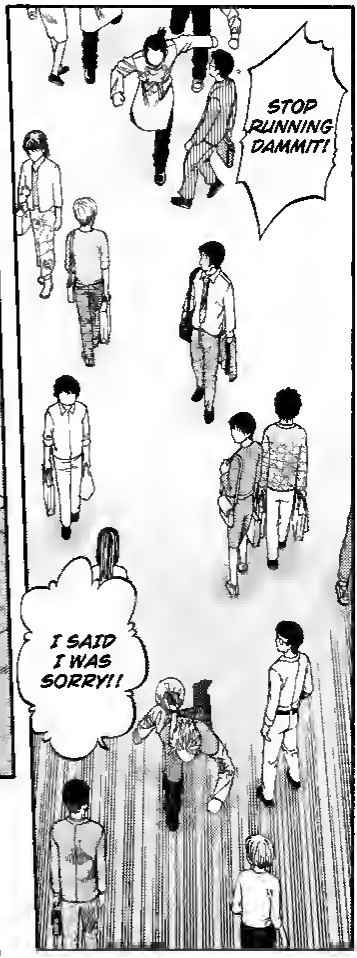

CHAPTER 98: THE FATED MEETING IN OSAKA AND THE DIFFERENT TASTING KATSU CURRY!
AND THE 5TH EDIBLE-FIGHT BATTLE IIISSS... PASTA!!
AND TODAY'S THEME IIIIISSS... FRUITS!
HAH
HAH
NOW CONTESTANT ANDY HAS PUT THE APRICOTS IN A BLENDER!
JUST WHAT DOES HE HAVE IN STORE FOR US TODAY!?
HOW WILL HE INCORPORATE THOSE APRICOTS INTO HIS PASTA? I WONDER...
CONTESTANT ANDY HAS CHOSEN APRICOTS FOR HIS THEME INGREDIENT!
PANT
PANT
EDIBLE
BATTLE
HIS OPPONENT, CONTESTANT ISOYAMA, HAS CHOSEN GRAPES FOR HIS THEME INGREDIENT!
DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL FOLKS! THIS BATTLE IS JUST GETTING STARTED!!!
COME BACK HERE YOU!!

CHAPTER 98: THE FATED MEETING IN OSAKA AND THE DIFFERENT TASTING KATSU CURRY!



カレー
華麗なる食卓
Addicted to curry

TL NOTE: ONE WHO EATS AND LEAVES WITHOUT PAYING

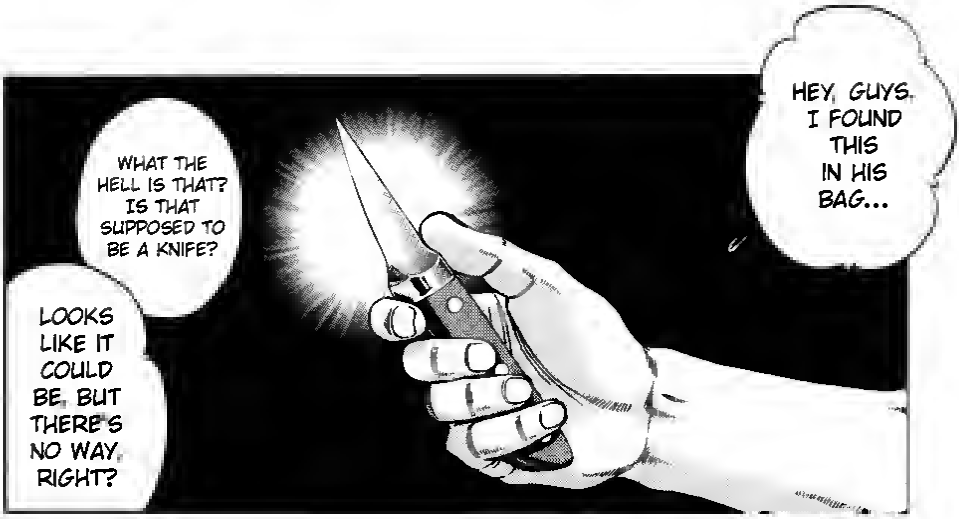


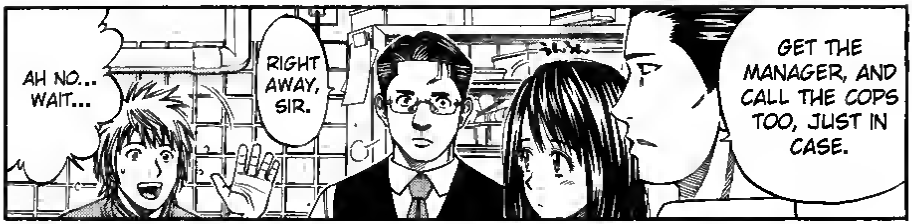
UH OH...
THIS AIN'T GOOD...
ひょーーー
すんっ
……
すごい
……
WOAH ...
THEY'RE HUGE ...

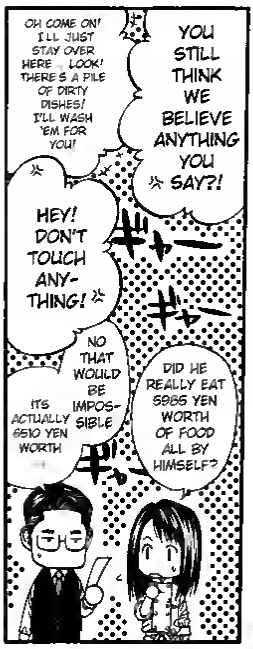
OOOOO-
OOOOH
<3
!
O-
GAH I'M SORRY ...
ARE YOU OK?-- ...
AY...
WHAT THE HELL, MAN?! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!?
!
OOO-OOOO-OOOW! THAT HURT!

HER NAME IS NANASE MAHIRO. SHE'S A COOK AT THE RESTAURANT YOU JUST STOLE FROM!
AND YOU AIN'T GETTING HER NUMBER...
ガシッ
WHY HELLO THERE MISS... ARE YOU OK? HOW ABOUT GIVING ME YOUR NAME AND NUMBER AND WE...
OSAKA, SPRING 2003
あ
Asahi
生
CHINTA

I AM REALLY REALLY SORRY!
華屋敷
...I CAME TO THIS CITY TO SEARCH FOR MY FATHER...
AND THEN ...
ガバッ
華屋敷
SO...
!
ERR... WELL YOU SEE...
I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT CAME OVER ME AND UH...
IS THAT RIGHT...?
HEY KAITANI-SAN, THIS GUY DOESN'T SEEM TO EVEN HAVE A WALLET
ゴッゴッ
I DIDN'T MEAN TO RUN! I FINISHED EATING BEFORE REALIZING I HAD NO MONEY ON ME...

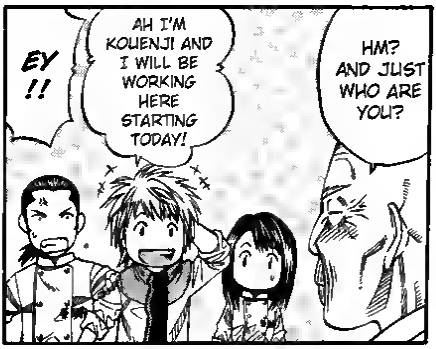

HEY, GUYS. I FOUND THIS IN HIS BAG...
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT? IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A KNIFE?
LOOKS LIKE IT COULD BE, BUT THERE'S NO WAY, RIGHT?

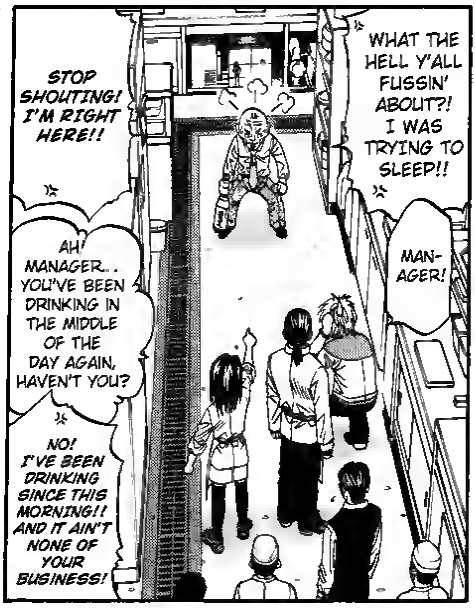

AH NO... WAIT...
RIGHT AWAY, SIR.
GET THE MANAGER, AND CALL THE COPS TOO, JUST IN CASE.

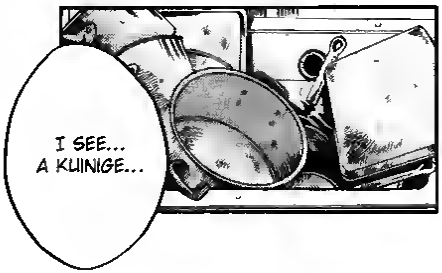

OH COME ON! I'LL JUST STAY OVER HERE... LOOK! THERE'S A PILE OF DIRTY DISHES! I'LL WASH 'EM FOR YOU!
YOU STILL THINK WE BELIEVE ANYTHING YOU SAY?!
HEY! DON'T TOUCH ANY-THING!
NO THAT WOULD BE IMPOS-SIBLE
IT'S ACTUALLY 6510 YEN WORTH
DID HE REALLY EAT 5985 YEN WORTH OF FOOD ALL BY HIMSELF?

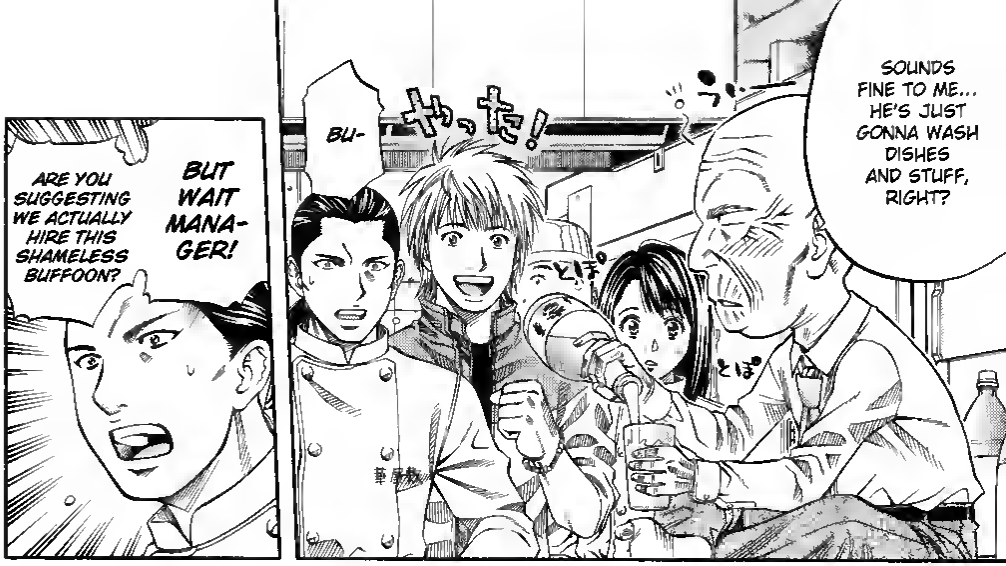
I GOT AN IDEA! HOW 'BOUT THIS?
HOW 'BOUT IF I WORK HERE 'TILL I PAY BACK THE 5985 YEN WORTH OF FOOD I ATE?
I CAN CLEAN, I CAN WASH DISHES, ANYTHING YOU NEED!

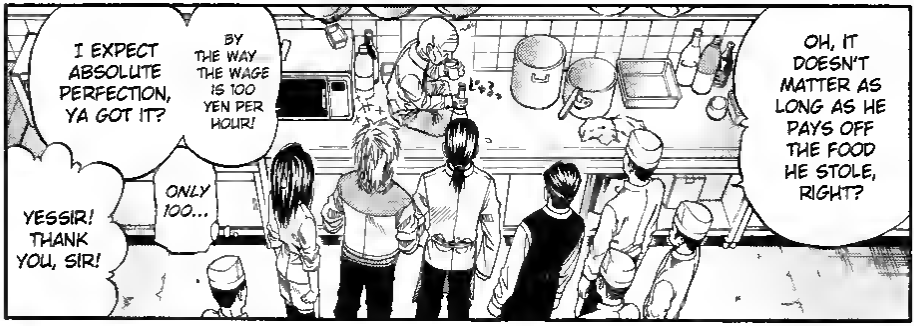
SHUT YOUR FUCKIN' TRAPS UP !!!!


EY !!
AH I'M KOUENJI AND I WILL BE WORKING HERE STARTING TODAY!
HM? AND JUST WHO ARE YOU?


STOP SHOUTING! I'M RIGHT HERE!!
WHAT THE HELL Y'ALL FUSSIN' ABOUT?! I WAS TRYING TO SLEEP!!
AH! MANAGER.. YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY AGAIN, HAVEN'T YOU?
MAN-AGER!
NO! I'VE BEEN DRINKING SINCE THIS MORNING!! AND IT AIN'T NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!

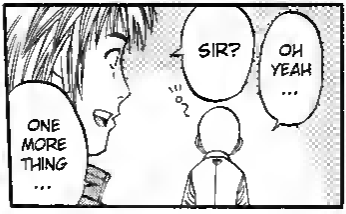

I SEE... A KUINIGE...


ARE YOU SUGGESTING WE ACTUALLY HIRE THIS SHAMELESS BUFFOON?
BUT WAIT MANAGER!
BU-
やった!
SOUNDS FINE TO ME... HE'S JUST GONNA WASH DISHES AND STUFF, RIGHT?


I EXPECT ABSOLUTE PERFECTION, YA GOT IT?
BY THE WAY THE WAGE IS 100 YEN PER HOUR!
ONLY 100...
YESSIR! THANK YOU, SIR!
OH, IT DOESN'T MATTER AS LONG AS HE PAYS OFF THE FOOD HE STOLE, RIGHT?

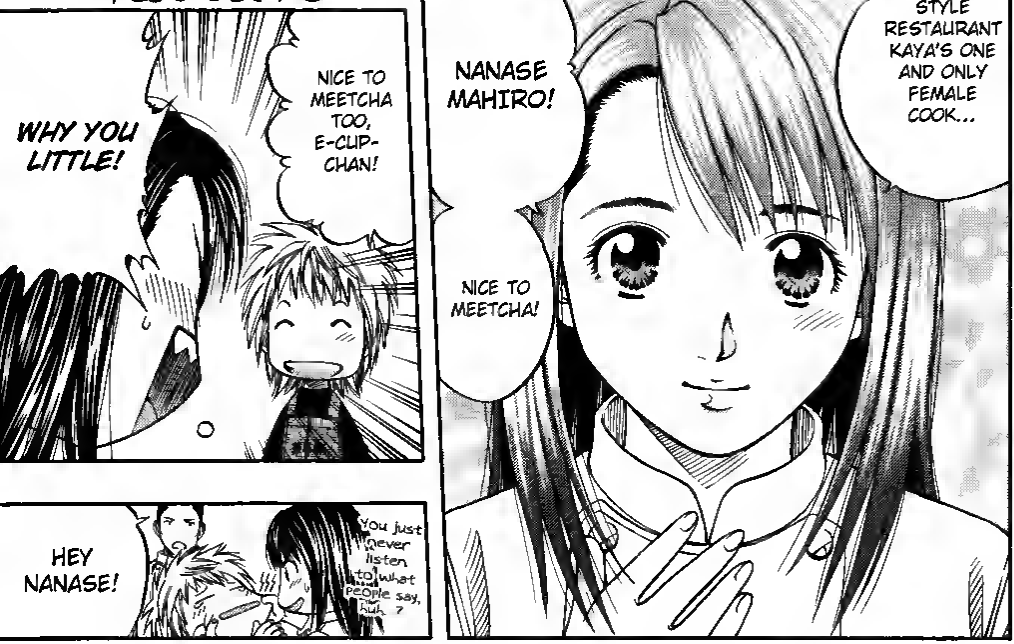
WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN?

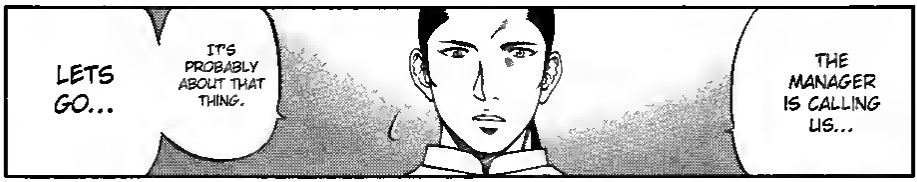
YESSIR! GOOD NIGHT, SIR!
ALRIGHTY THEN, I'M GONNA GO BACK TO SLEEPIN' SO Y'ALL BEST NOT WAKE ME UP AGAIN!

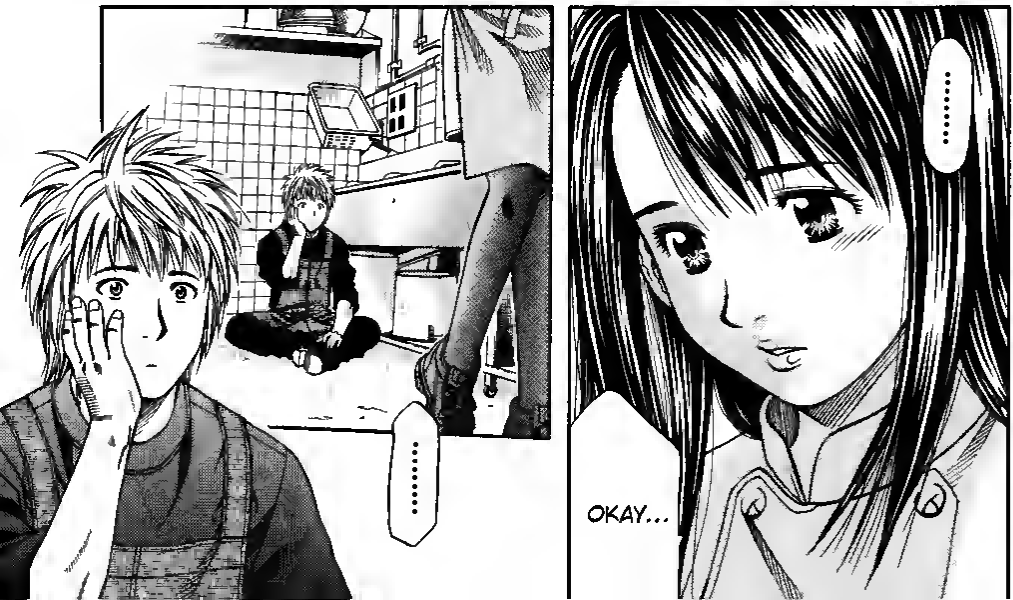

SIR?
OH YEAH ...
ONE MORE THING ...

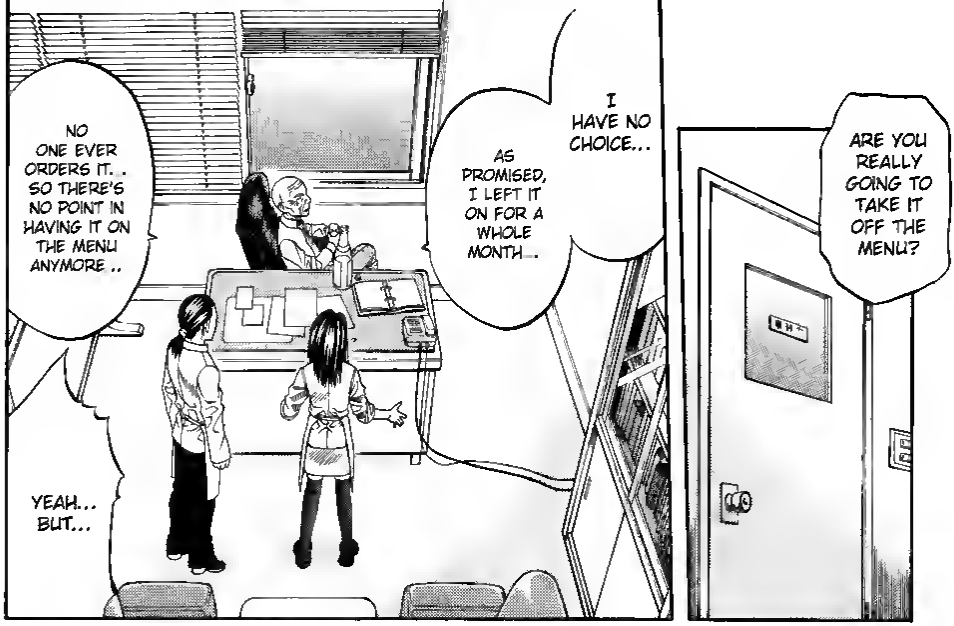
KOUENJI MAKITO!
MAKITO!
I GUESS I GOT A NEW NICK-NAME
YES SIR!
KIJINIGE -KUN!
AH YES THAT'S RIGHT
華屋敷
……
……

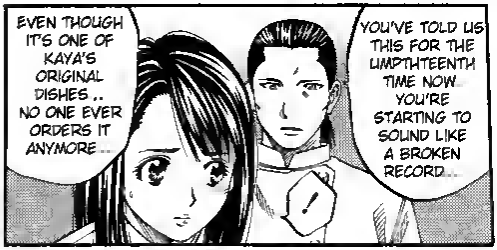
EY, KUI-NIGE! WASH THIS TOO!
RIGHT AWAY, SIR!
WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF PLATES, KUINIGE!
KUINIGE! MOP THE FLOORS!
RIGHT AWAY, SIR!
CLEAN THAT SPOT OVER THERE TOO, KUINIGE!
GO OUT AND BUY US SOME DRINKS, KUINIGE!
YESSIR! RIGHT AWAY, SIR!
WHEW YOU'RE SURE WORKIN' HARD THERE KUI-NIGE-KUN!
AH, HEY THERE E-CUP-CHAN!
WHO THE HELL YOU CALLING E-CUP-CHAN?!
BUT REALLY, YOU SURE ARE WEIRD VOLUNTEERING TO WASH DISHES LIKE THAT...
WOULDN'T IT BE A LOT EASIER TO JUST GET ARRESTED BY THE COPS LIKE A NORMAL PERSON?
OF COURSE!
WHAT-EVER.
IN ANY CASE, LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF.
"OF COURSE!"?


I'M THE WESTERN STYLE RESTAURANT KAYA'S ONE AND ONLY FEMALE COOK...
NANASE MAHIRO!
NICE TO MEETCHA!
NICE TO MEETCHA TOO, E-CUP-CHAN!
WHY YOU LITTLE!
HEY NANASE!
You just never listen to what people say, huh.

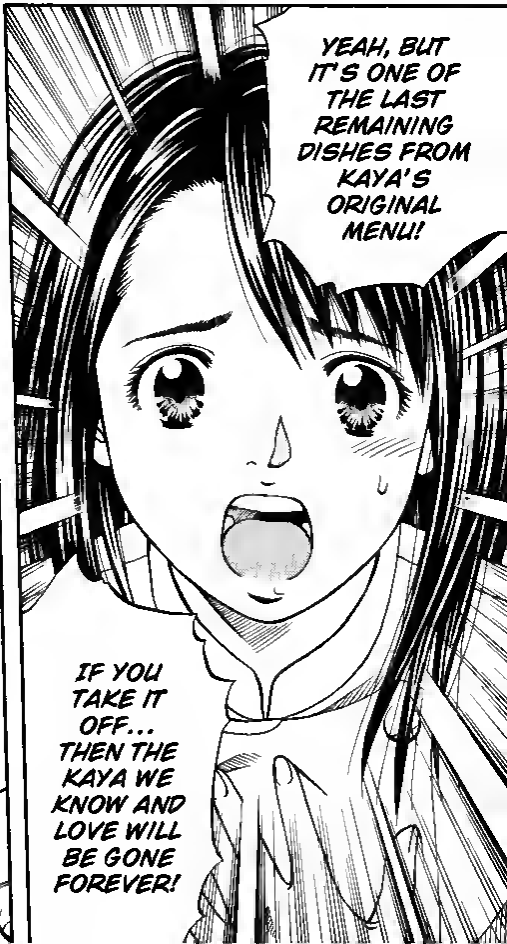

THE MANAGER IS CALLING US...
IT'S PROBABLY ABOUT THAT THING.
LETS GO...

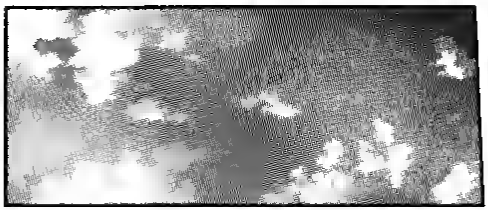

.....
OKAY...
.....


ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO TAKE IT OFF THE MENU?
I HAVE NO CHOICE...
AS PROMISED, I LEFT IT ON FOR A WHOLE MONTH...
NO ONE EVER ORDERS IT.. SO THERE'S NO POINT IN HAVING IT ON THE MENU ANYMORE ..
YEAH... BUT...


EVEN THOUGH IT'S ONE OF KAYA'S ORIGINAL DISHES .. NO ONE EVER ORDERS IT ANYMORE ...
YOU'VE TOLD US THIS FOR THE UMPTHTEENTH TIME NOW. YOU'RE STARTING TO SOUND LIKE A BROKEN RECORD...
!

IT'S THE LAST THING ANYONE WOULD EVEN THINK OF SERVING IN A RESTAURANT LIKE THIS...
BESIDES... KAYA IS A WESTERN STYLE RESTAURANT... IT MAKES NO SENSE FOR US TO SERVE IT...


YEAH, BUT IT'S ONE OF THE LAST REMAINING DISHES FROM KAYA'S ORIGINAL MENU!
IF YOU TAKE IT OFF... THEN THE KAYA WE KNOW AND LOVE WILL BE GONE FOREVER!

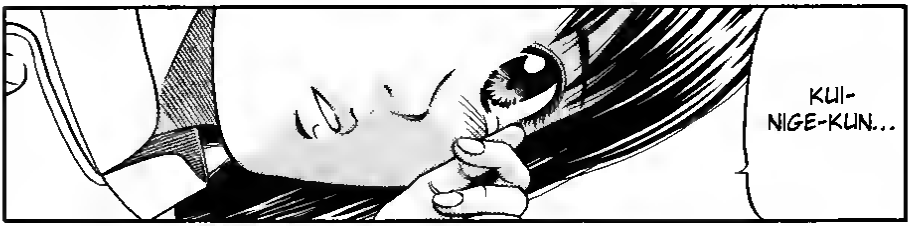


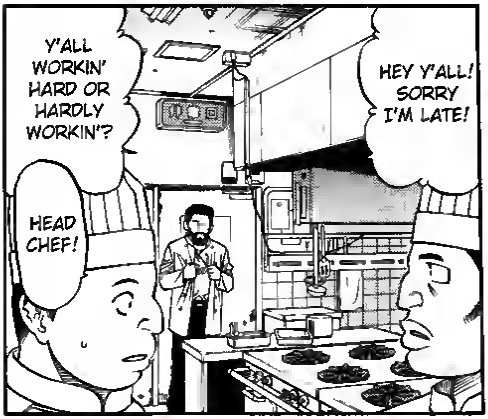
Really? YAY!
Lets go to Kaya tomorrow for dinner!

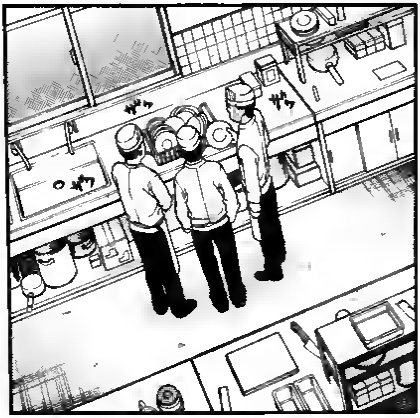
Mommy? Are you going to eat the same thing again?
.....
OH,
IS THAT YOU, E-CUP-CHAN?

A RESTAURANT CAN'T RUN ON DREAMS ALONE...
!!!

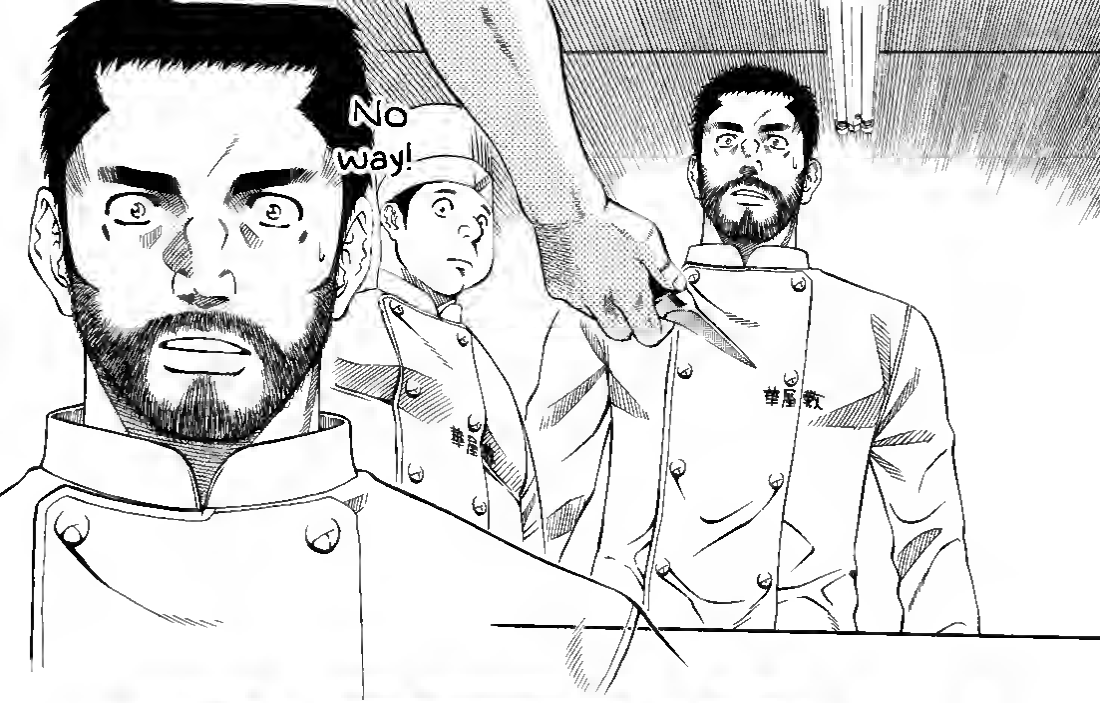
WHAT'S WRONG?


KUI-NIGE-KUN...

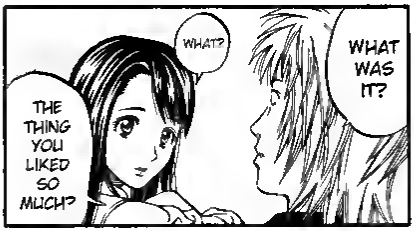

Y'ALL WORKIN' HARD OR HARDLY WORKIN'?
HEY Y'ALL! SORRY I'M LATE!
HEAD CHEF!

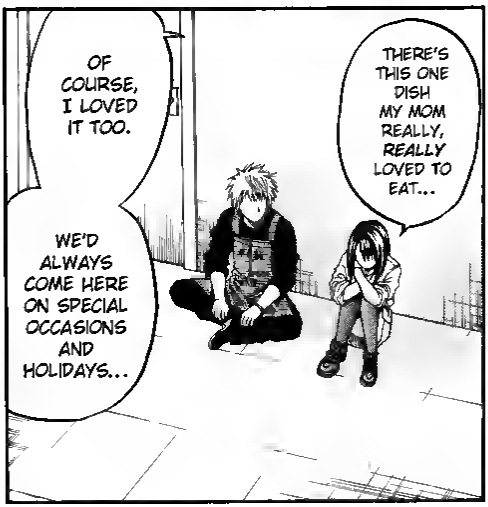


OOH, WELL AREN'T THESE PLATES ALL CLEAN AND PRETTY!
HM? WHAT'S WRONG GUYS?
WOW! IT'S SO CLEAN AND SHINY, I DON'T EVEN WANT TO USE THEM!
HELL I CAN EVEN SEE MY OWN FACE!
INDEED
SOME DUDE WHO ATE WITHOUT PAYING AND HAD SOMETHING WEIRD IN HIS BAG?
WHO COULD HAVE DONE SUCH A FANTASTIC JOB? WHO WAS IT? WAS IT YOU?
ER.. NO ACTUALLY...
ばばば
がしがし
YOU'RE KIDDING- RIGHT? WHY THE HELL IS SOMEONE LIKE THAT WORKING IN MY KITCHEN?
WELL...
OH, HERE'S THE WEIRD THING, BY THE WAY...


No way!

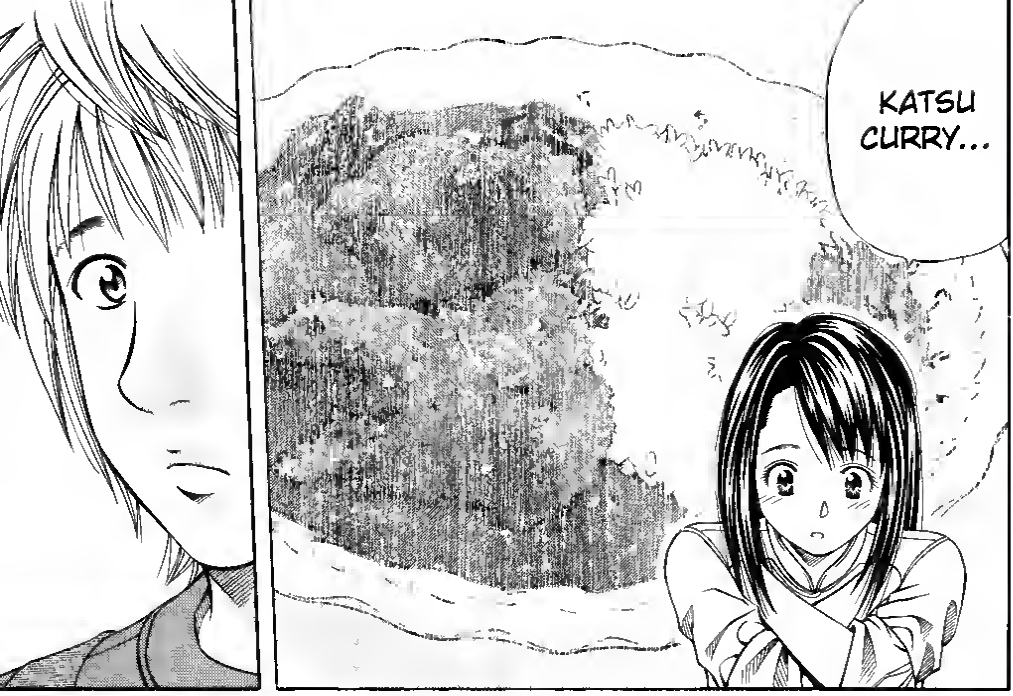
I USED TO COME HERE ALL THE TIME WHEN I WAS A KID...
YOU KNOW...


WHAT?
WHAT WAS IT?
THE THING YOU LIKED SO MUCH?


THERE'S THIS ONE DISH MY MOM REALLY, REALLY LOVED TO EAT...
OF COURSE, I LOVED IT TOO.
WE'D ALWAYS COME HERE ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS AND HOLIDAYS...

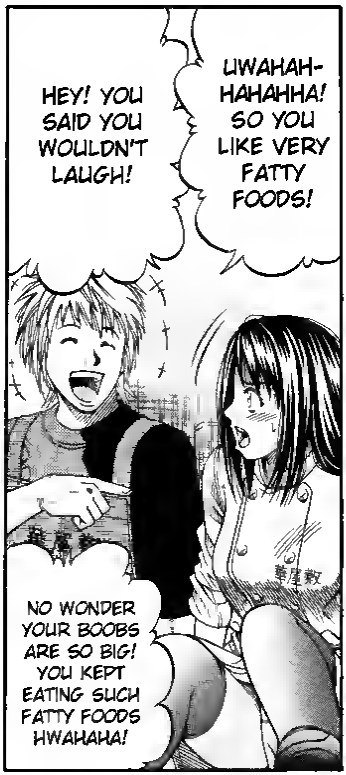
YOU PROMISE NOT TO LAUGH?
PROM-ISE...

.....


KATSU CURRY...

SHUT UP!
BACK IN THE DAY, KAYA'S KATSU CURRY WAS VERY FAMOUS!

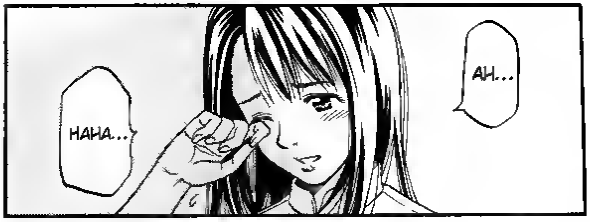
THE LUXURIOUS CURRY SAUCE THAT WAS MADE WITH BEEF BOUILLON.. THE CRISP YET JUICY GOLDEN BROWN AND DELICIOUS DEEP FRIED PORK CUTLET... IT DOESN'T GET BETTER THAN THAT!
IT WASN'T LIKE IT WAS VERY EXPENSIVE OR PARTICULARLY SPECIAL OR ANYTHING,
BUT IF YOU WERE TO ASK ABOUT KAYA'S KATSU CURRY, YOU WOULDN'T FIND ONE PERSON WHO DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT!

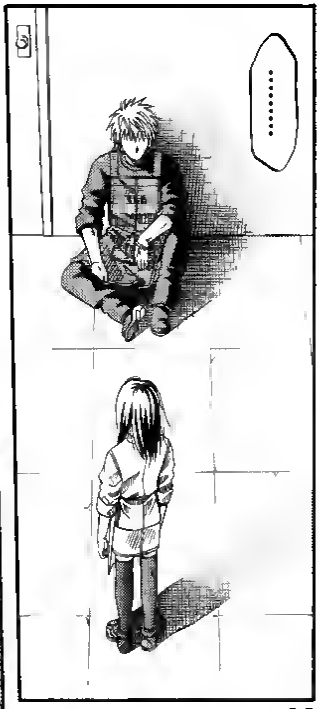

HEY! YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T LAUGH!
UWAHAH-HAHAHHA! SO YOU LIKE VERY FATTY FOODS!
NO WONDER YOUR BOOBS ARE SO BIG! YOU KEPT EATING SUCH FATTY FOODS HWAHAHA!

WHEN I GREW UP... I WAS GOING TO COME BACK AND WORK FOR THIS RESTAURANT...
I WAS GOING TO LEARN TO COOK THAT SAME CURRY... AND THEN WHEN I GOT IT DOWN...
I WOULD INVITE MY MOM HERE AND COOK FOR HER THE CURRY SHE LOVES MOST! THAT'S WHAT MY GOAL WAS...
BECAUSE ..
MY MOM RAISED ME ALL BY HERSELF AND GAVE ME EVERYTHING...
I JUST COULDN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF IF I DIDN'T DO SOMETHING FOR HER IN RETURN, YOU KNOW!
BUT ...
IT SEEMS LIKE,
I'M NEVER GOING TO GET THAT CHANCE AFTER ALL...

I WONDER WHEN THE DISH BEGAN TO TASTE DIFFERENT.
I MEAN, SURE IT'S BEEN A VERY LONG TIME, BUT...
IT JUST DOESN'T TASTE AS GOOD AS IT USED TO...
BECAUSE...
NO ONE LIKES IT ANYMORE...
WHY NOT?
...NO MATTER WHAT I DO, I JUST CAN'T GET IT TO TASTE THE SAME.
THE MANAGER SAYS THAT THE CURRY HASN'T CHANGED ONE BIT BUT...
NONE OF THE CHEFS WHO USED TO WORK HERE AND COOK THAT CURRY ARE HERE ANYMORE...
SO WE CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT WE ARE DOING WRONG...
IN THE END...
.....
STARTING NEXT WEEK, WE WILL HAVE A NEW MENU...
AND THE NEW MENU WILL NO LONGER HAVE KATSU CURRY....

IN THE END I COULDN'T...
COULDN'T EVEN COOK FOR MY MOM ONCE...

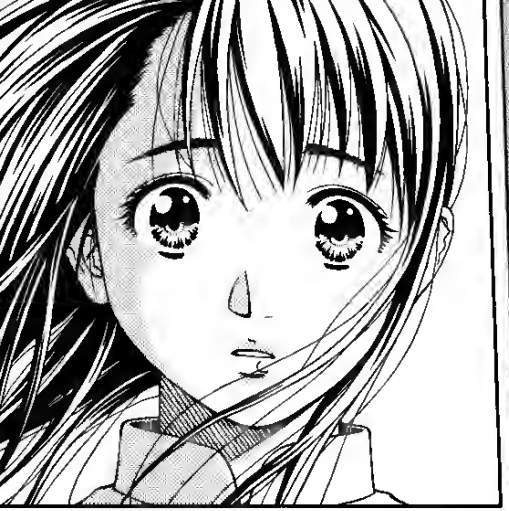

AH...
HAHA...


.....

HUH?
IT'S WAY TOO EARLY FOR YOU TO QUIT RIGHT NOW!
YOU'VE STILL GOT TIME BEFORE NEXT WEEK RIGHT?!

WHY AM I HAVING SUCH A CONVERSATION WITH A NEWCOMER ANYWAY?
WHAT AM I DOING? SORRY TO HAVE MADE YOU LISTEN TO ALL THAT, KUINIGE-KUN...
PLEASE DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT WHAT I SAID TODAY
YOU REALLY DO LOVE CURRY, HUH?

IF YOU KEEP PRACTICING,
YOU'LL DEFINITELY GET THAT ORIGINAL FLAVOR BACK!
NO WAY ...
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE...
YOU'RE RIGHT, IT IS IMPOS-SIBLE... BUT EVEN SO,
IF YOU COULD MAKE THE CURRY EVEN JUST A LITTLE BIT BETTER... YOUR CUSTOMERS WILL THANK YOU FOR IT!
YOUR CUSTOMERS WILL TELL YOU HOW GREAT IT TASTES AND SPREAD THE WORD LIKE BEFORE!
AND THEN...
THE GUYS UP TOP WILL HAVE TO THINK TWICE ABOUT REMOVING IT FROM THE MENU!



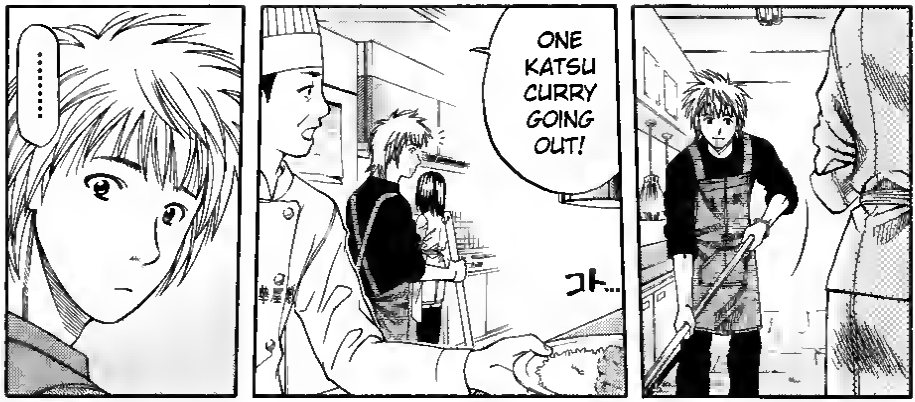
That's right...
Mommy! You look so happy whenever you eat this curry!

I MEAN YOU'RE NOT EVEN A CHEF, YOU'RE JUST A THIEF, AND YET...

It's because I wanted to see her smile again
IT'S SO WEIRD COMING FROM YOU...

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR A CHEF IS...
THE SMILING FACE OF A SATISFIED CUSTOMER!

I CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND CRYING AND DOING NOTHING!
BUT YOU ARE RIGHT, KUINIGE-KUN...
I HAVE TO MAKE MY OWN DREAMS COME TRUE BY MY OWN STRENGTH!
JUST WAIT...
I WILL DEFINITELY BRING BACK THAT KATSU CURRY, YOU'LL SEE!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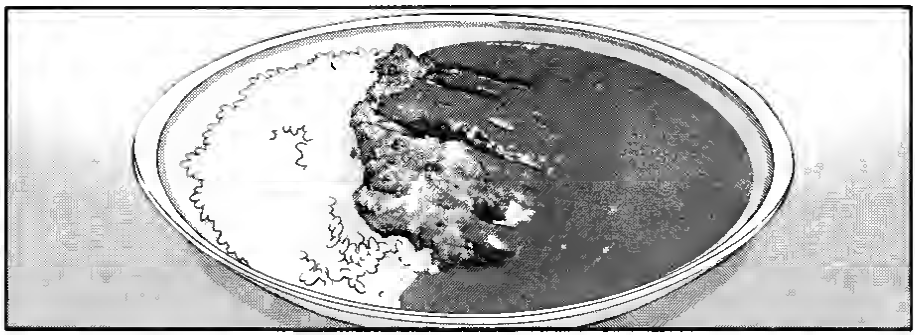
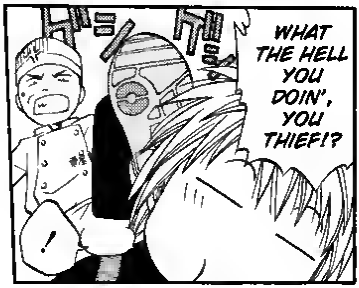
ONE KATSU CURRY GOING OUT!
コト…

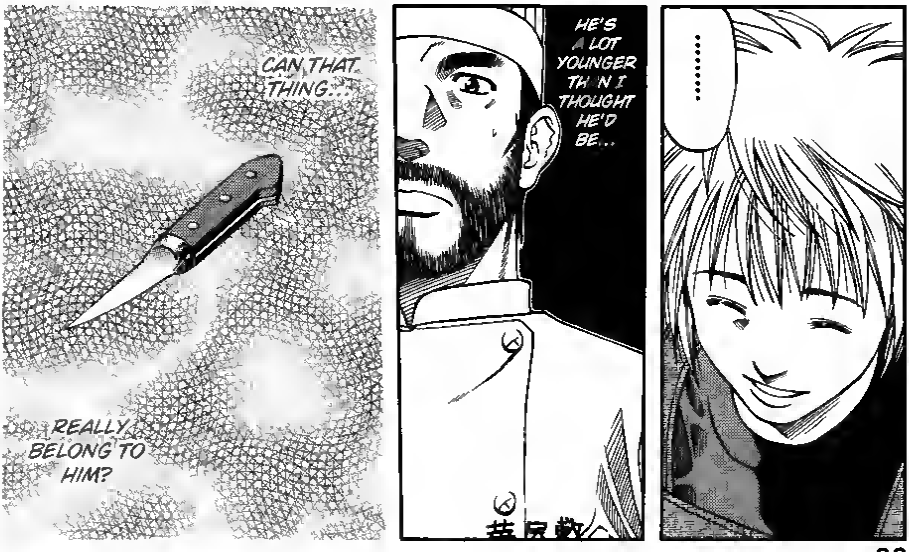


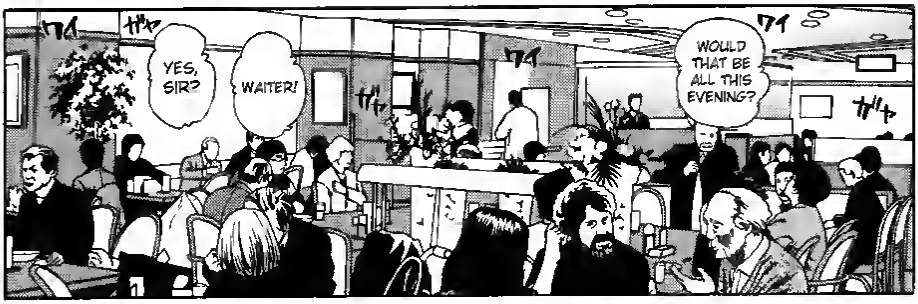
COULD THIS BE!…?
HUH?
SPIT THAT OUT THIS INSTANT!
NOM NOM NOM

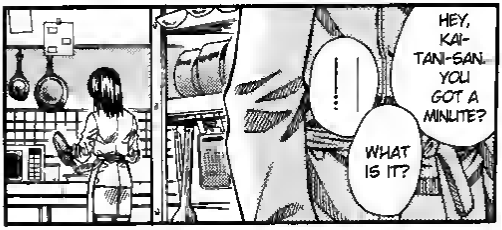
HEY!


WHAT THE HELL YOU DOIN', YOU THIEF!?

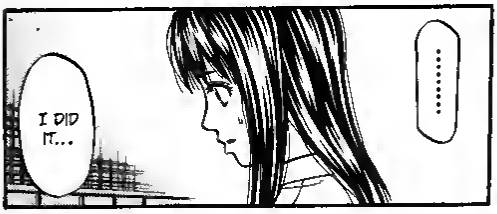
I'M THE HEAD CHEF, MASAKI!
す…
WON'T BE FOR LONG, BUT I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU!
HEY YOU! ARE YOU THE KUINIGE-KUN I'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT?
OH, SAME HERE!
I'm Kouenji, by the way.

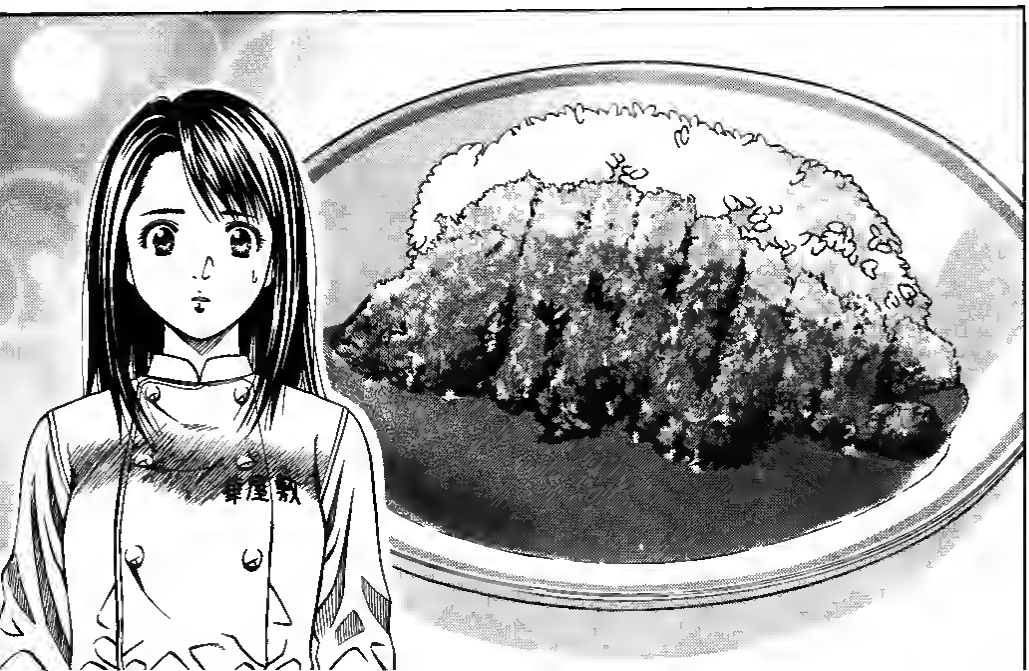

CAN THAT THING...
REALLY BELONG TO HIM?
HE'S A LOT YOUNGER THAN I THOUGHT HE'D BE...
……


WAITER!
YES, SIR?
WOULD THAT BE ALL THIS EVENING?

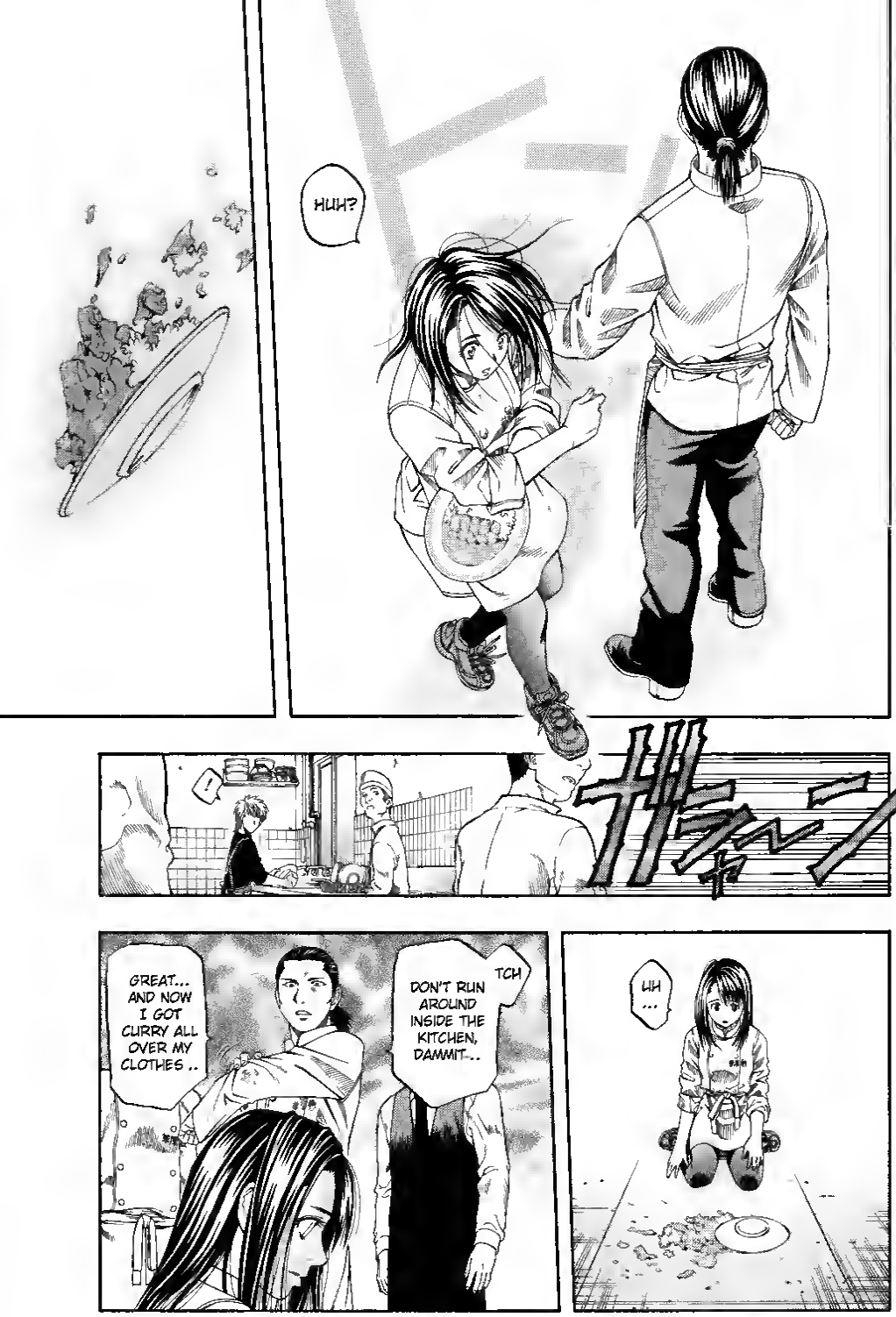

HEY, KAI-TANI-SAN. YOU GOT A MINUTE?
WHAT IS IT?

HEY YOU TWO, PICK UP THE PACE ALREADY!
YES, SIR!


I DID IT...

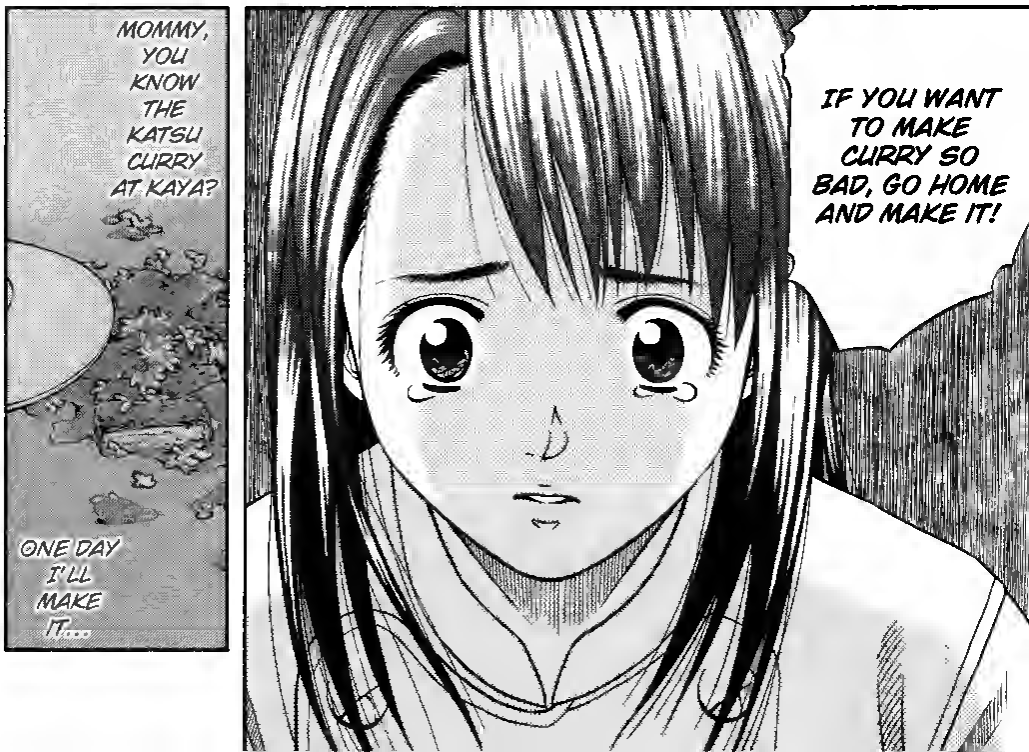

華屋敷

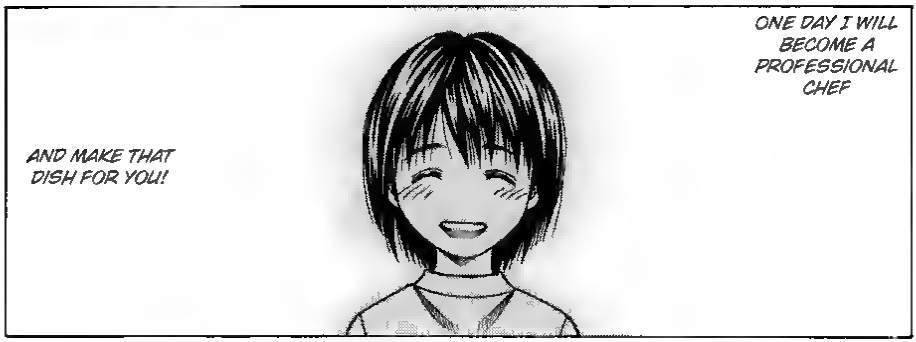
KAITANI-SAN!
HUH?
I HOPE HE'LL GIVE IT A TRY...
... IT SHOULD BE AT LEAST A LITTLE BETTER...
IT MAY NOT BE ANYWHERE CLOSE TO KAYA'S ORIGINAL KATSU CURRY, BUT...
ALRI-GHTY ...
BESIDES, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE SITTING AROUND AND EATING!
CHIEF!
ARE YOU SERIOUS? WHY ARE YOU COOKING SOMETHING THAT'S GOING TO BE TAKEN OFF THE MENU EVENTUALLY?
WELL, YOU SEE
WHAT IS IT?
JUST ONE BITE?
BUT UM... PLEASE?
JUST TRY ONE BITE!
PLEASE? JUST ONE BITE!
WOULD YOU TASTE IT FOR ME?
I TRIED TO FIX THE KATSU CURRY RECIPE, BUT UM...
UM...
WHY?


HUH?
!
GREAT... AND NOW I GOT CURRY ALL OVER MY CLOTHES ..
TCH
DON'T RUN AROUND INSIDE THE KITCHEN, DAMMIT...
UH ...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF MEMORIES YOU HAVE AS A KID, BUT...
YOU KNOW SOMETHING, NANASE,
KEEP THEM TO YOURSELF! DON'T SLOW THE REST OF US DOWN!!
ALL THIS TALK ABOUT KATSU CURRY IS FRICKIN' ANNOYING!

IT'S NOT SOMETHING US PROS COOK!
BESIDES, CURRY IS CHILDREN'S FOOD...


MOMMY, YOU KNOW THE KATSU CURRY AT KAYA?
ONE DAY I'LL MAKE IT...
IF YOU WANT TO MAKE CURRY SO BAD, GO HOME AND MAKE IT!


ONE DAY I WILL BECOME A PROFESSIONAL CHEF
AND MAKE THAT DISH FOR YOU!

は〜は〜は〜は
AND THEN WE CAN ALL FINALLY BE FREE FROM YOUR CONSTANT OBSESSION WITH CURRY!
〜〜〜〜

DON'T WORRY; NO ONE WILL EVEN NOTICE YOU'RE GONE...
ALSO, IF YOU ARE GOING HOME, TURN IN YOUR LETTER OF RESIGNATION.

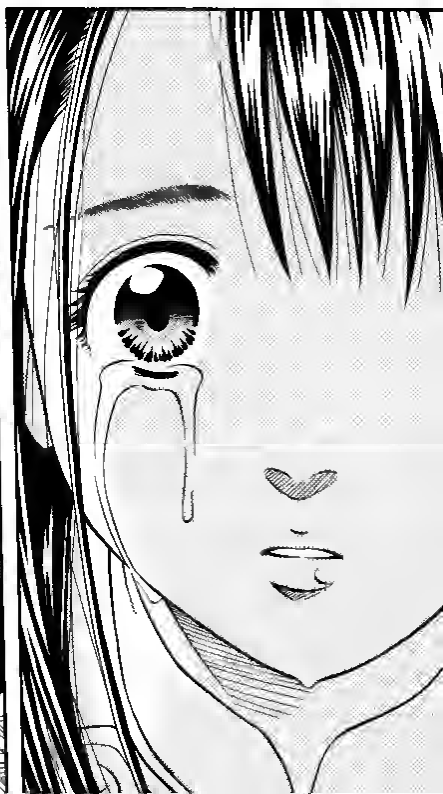
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU BLENDED THE SPICES YOURSELF, HUH? I TASTE GARUM MASALA AS WELL...
IT'S NOT REALLY SPICY, BUT THE AROMA IS MUCH BETTER!

YOU USED A GENEROUS AMOUNT OF STOCK, HUH...
!

THE ENTIRE DISH HAS IMPROVED!
もぐもぐ

WAIT... WHAT ARE YOU ...?
BLEGH
IS HE EATING OFF THE FLOOR?

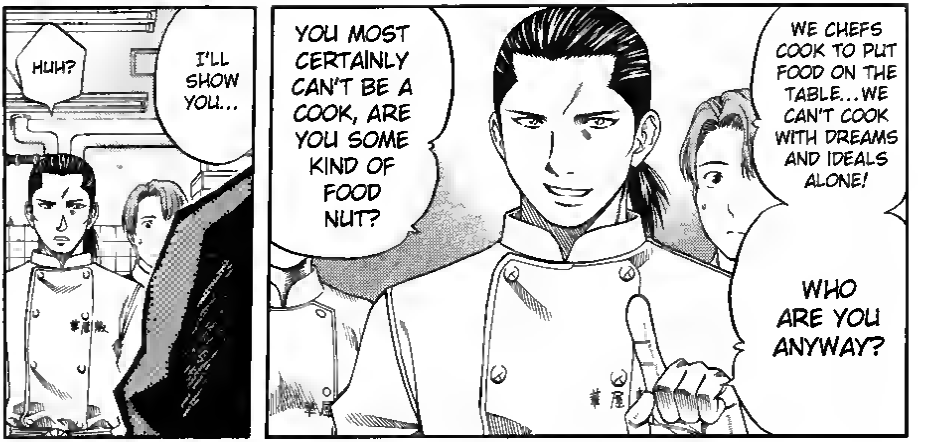
OW...



YOU'RE STARTING TO REALLY PISS ME OFF!
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY? SOMETHING ABOUT STOCK AND BLENDING SPICES?
DON'T TALK LIKE YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO KNOWS SOMETHING ABOUT FOOD, YOU DIRTY THIEF!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, HUH?
NO.. STOP...
ギチ
ARE YOU SAYING YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT FOOD THAN US?!
WHO THE FUCK DO YOU THINK YOU'RE KIDDING?!
メリ..
HEY, ASSHOLE ...
HUH?

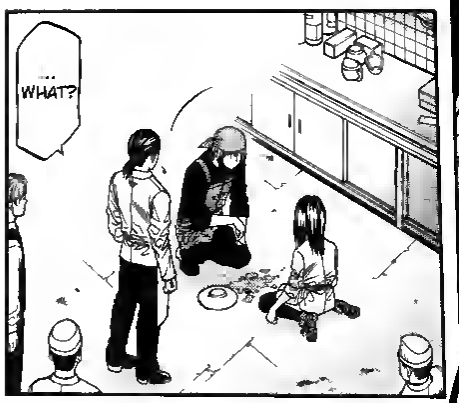
よろ…
WHA-
AND DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY?
YOU ARE NOT A CHEF…
COOKING FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE IS JUST TIME AND ENERGY WASTED!
BECAUSE CHEFS ONLY CARE ABOUT COOKING DELICIOUS FOOD TO SATISFY THE CUSTOMER!
PEOPLE LIKE YOU…
CALL YOUR-SELF A CHEF?!
HOW DARE YOU

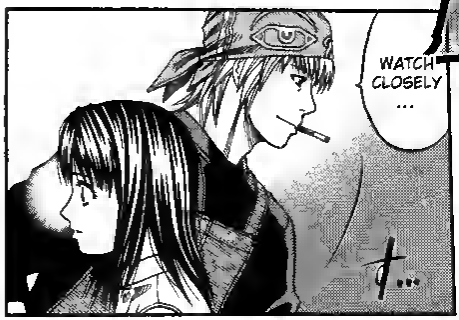
PEOPLE WHO DON'T CARE ABOUT THE FOOD THEY COOK...
ARE NOTHING BUT TRASH!
HMPH...
.....
UNFORTUNATELY, THE LIKES OF YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TELL ME WHAT MAKES AND DOESN'T MAKE A CHEF!
THAT WAS QUITE THE PERFORMANCE.


I'LL SHOW YOU...
HUH?
YOU MOST CERTAINLY CAN'T BE A COOK, ARE YOU SOME KIND OF FOOD NUT?
WE CHEFS COOK TO PUT FOOD ON THE TABLE...WE CAN'T COOK WITH DREAMS AND IDEALS ALONE!
WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY?

I'LL SHOW YOU, RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW!

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A REAL CHEF!!!


...
WHAT?

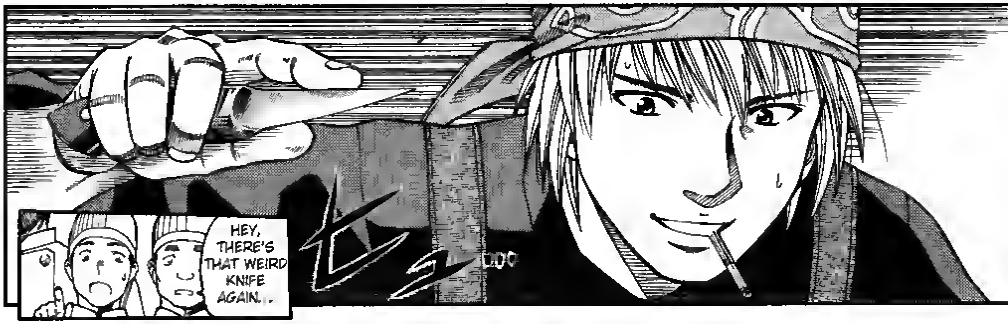

WATCH CLOSELY
...

ONLY GOOD FOOD...
CAN PLEASE THE HEART.

HMM...
ALRIGHT.
HERE I GO!

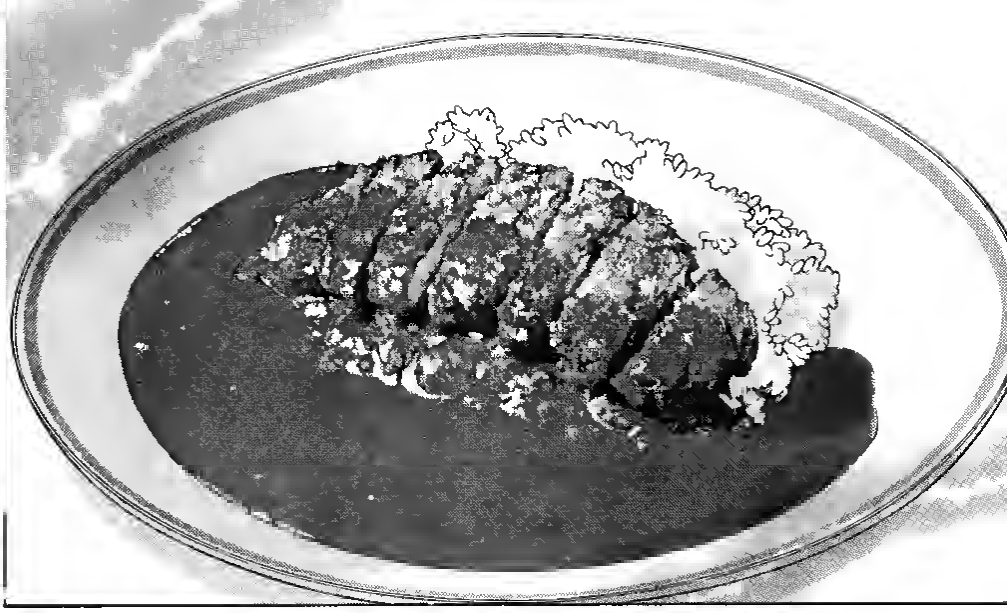
FEEL IT...!!
華屋敷

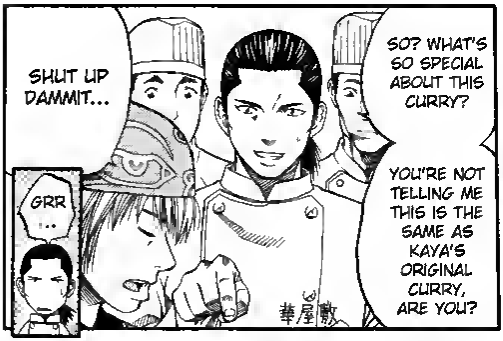
THEN YOU'D UNDERSTAND...
WHAT'S WITH HIS TECHNIQUE!
SO FAST...
IF ONLY YOU KNEW...
CHICKEN STOCK?
!

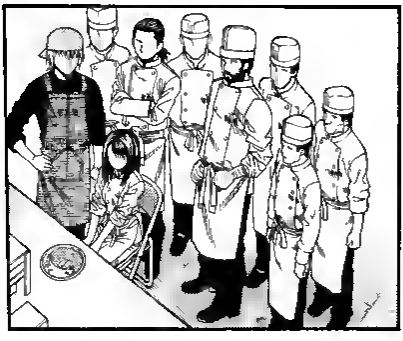

HEY, THERE'S THAT WEIRD KNIFE AGAIN...

A KNIFE? NO WAY...
YES...
IT'S JUST AN ORDINARY KNIFE THAT HAS BEEN USED A LOT...
IT'S JUST AN ORDINARY KNIFE...
THAT'S NOT SOME FANCY TOOL, EITHER.
THERE'S NOTHING WEIRD ABOUT THAT KNIFE...
EH?

NOT EVEN MY KNIFE...
HAS BEEN WHITTLED DOWN SO FAR...
NORMALLY, IT TAKES OVER 10 YEARS OF CONSTANT USE AND SHARPENING TO REACH THAT SIZE...
A KNIFE NEEDS TO BE SHARPENED REGULARLY TO MAINTAIN ITS EDGE... THE MORE THE KNIFE IS USED THE MORE SHARPENING IT NEEDS... AND WITH EACH SHARPENING THE BLADE BECOMES JUST A BIT SMALLER...
HE'S DANCING...
IT'S LIKE...
AMAZING...
I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMEONE HAVE SO MUCH FUN COOKING BEFORE...



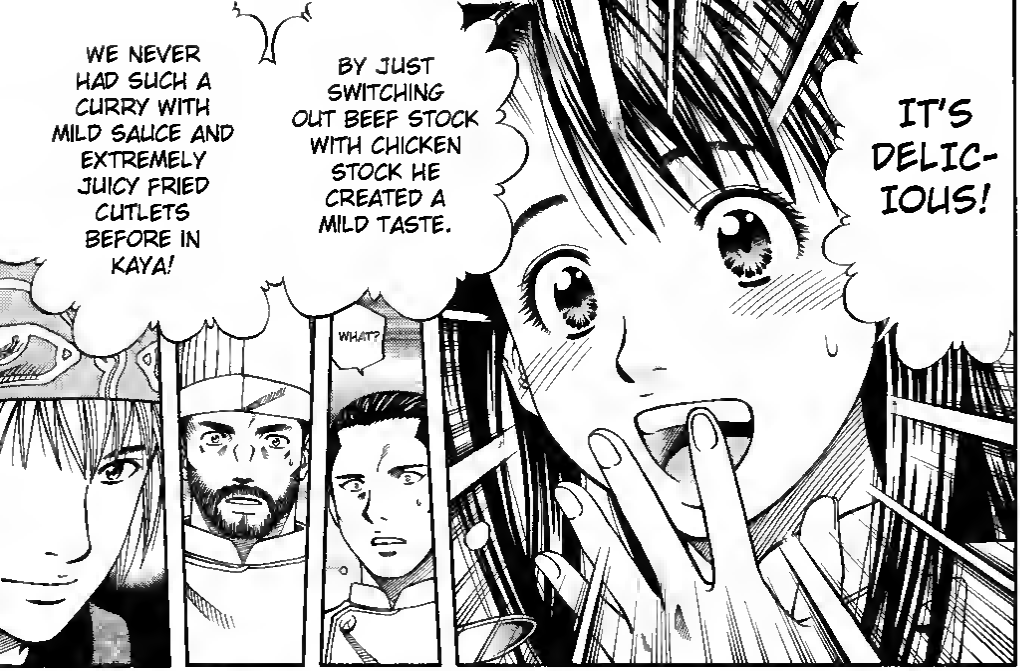

SHUT UP DAMMIT...
GRR...
SO? WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THIS CURRY?
YOU'RE NOT TELLING ME THIS IS THE SAME AS KAYA'S ORIGINAL CURRY, ARE YOU?
華屋敷

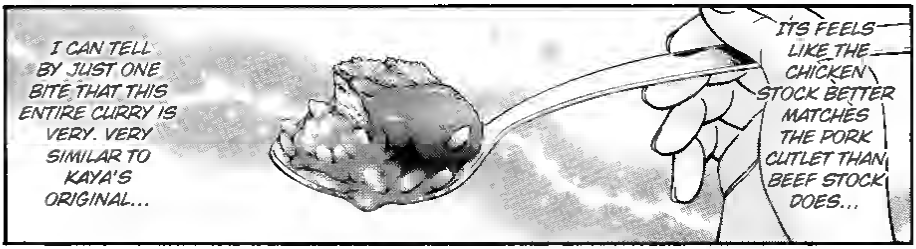


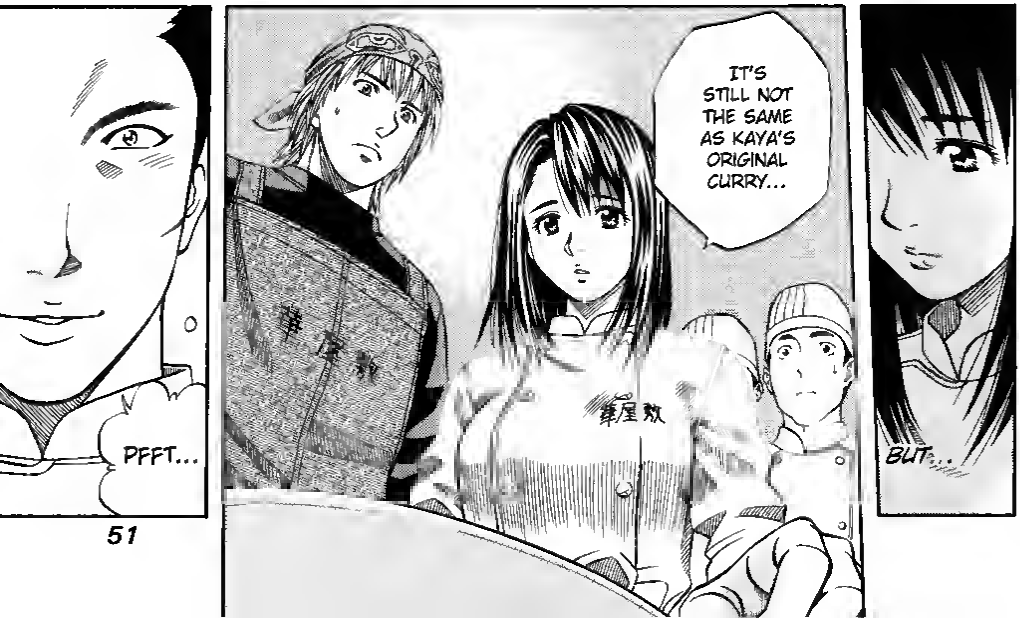
EXCEPT FOR ONE SMALL DETAIL...
EVERYTHING WAS PRETTY MUCH THE SAME.
!

I WATCHED HIS EVERY MOVE...
.....
HA...

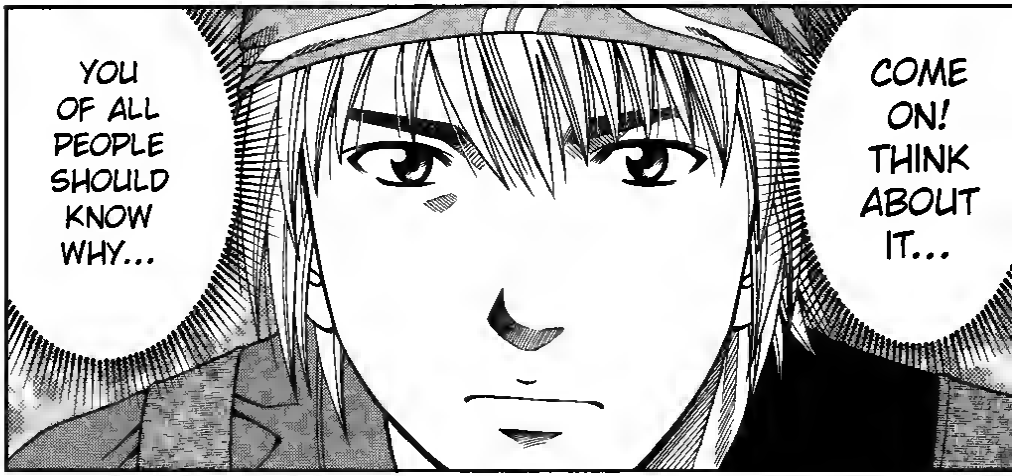
GO ON! GIVE IT A TASTE!
華屋敷


IT'S DELIC-IOUS!
BY JUST SWITCHING OUT BEEF STOCK WITH CHICKEN STOCK HE CREATED A MILD TASTE.
WHAT?
WE NEVER HAD SUCH A CURRY WITH MILD SAUCE AND EXTREMELY JUICY FRIED CUTLETS BEFORE IN KAYA!

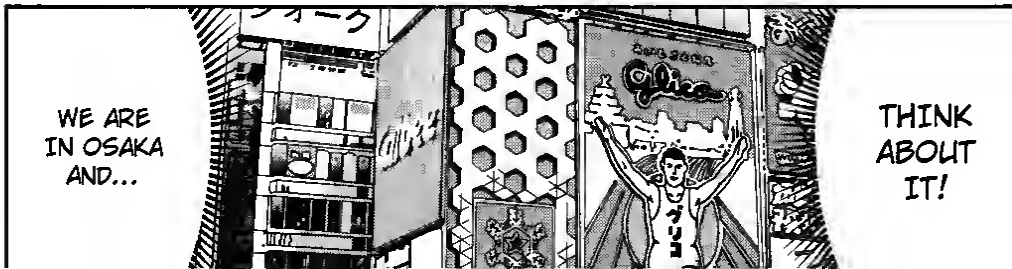

I CAN TELL BY JUST ONE BITE THAT THIS ENTIRE CURRY IS VERY. VERY SIMILAR TO KAYA'S ORIGINAL...
IT'S FEELS LIKE THE CHICKEN STOCK BETTER MATCHES THE PORK CUTLET THAN BEEF STOCK DOES...


PFFT...
IT'S STILL NOT THE SAME AS KAYA'S ORIGINAL CURRY...
BUT...

YOU STILL CALL YOURSELF A CHEF?
.....
?
DON'T BE SAD KUINIGE! THERE WAS NO WAY YOU COULD HAVE CREATED KAYA'S ORIGINAL CURRY, BECAUSE HERE AT KAYA, WE'VE ALWAYS USED BEEF STOCK INSTEAD OF CHICKEN STOCK!
WUAHA-HAHAHA! NICE TRY KUINIGE!

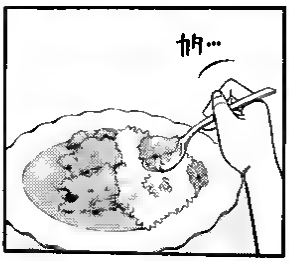

YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW WHY...
COME ON! THINK ABOUT IT...

WHY DID I, WHO NEVER KNEW IT WAS MADE WITH BEEF STOCK, CHOOSE TO USE CHICKEN STOCK INSTEAD?
WHY DID THE MANAGER SAY THAT THE CURRY HASN'T CHANGED?


WE ARE IN OSAKA AND...
THINK ABOUT IT!

SOMEONE BRING ME A SLICE OF BEEF!
WAIT A SECOND...
HUH...
?
DID SHE SAY BEEF?
BEEF?
SO YOU FINALLY REALIZED IT, HUH?

IT'S FINISHED.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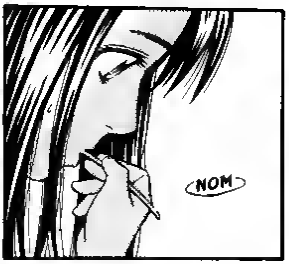
IT WOULD APPEAR SO…
AND BY FINISHED SHE MEANS SHE JUST SWAPPED THE PORK CUTLET WITH A BEEF CUTLET…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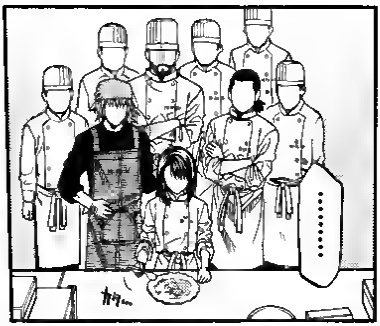
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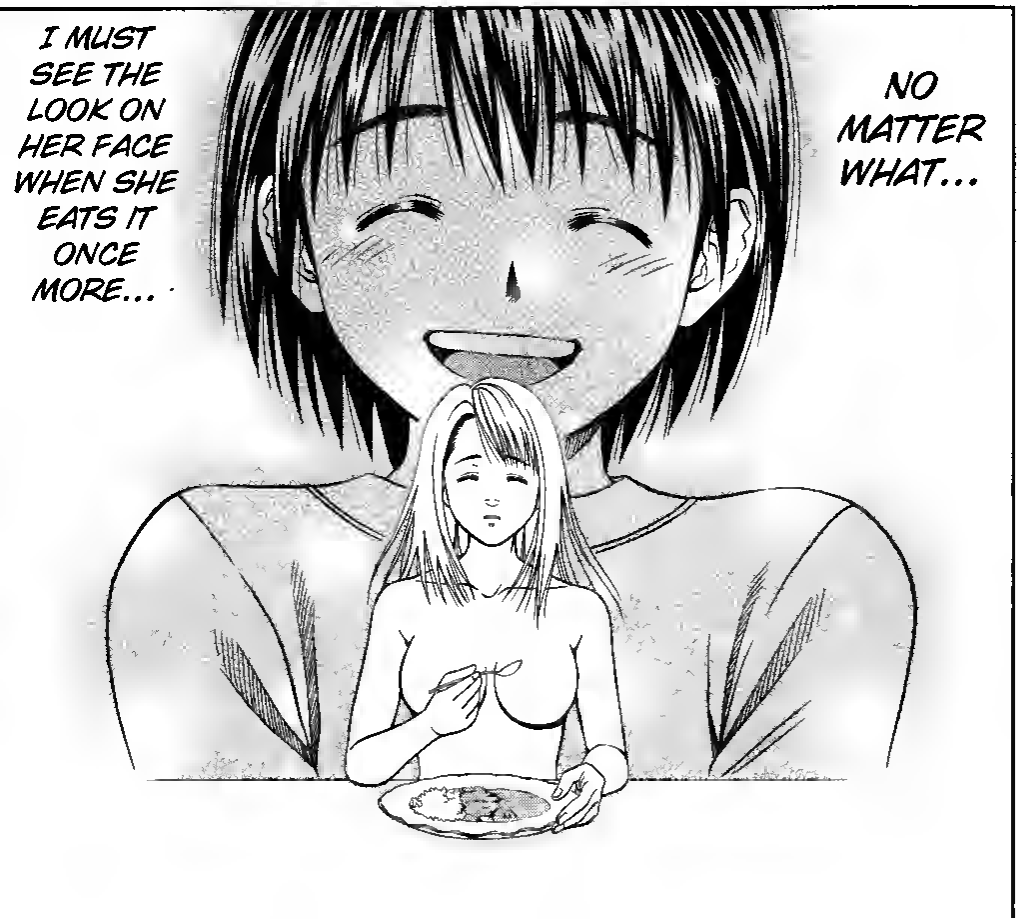
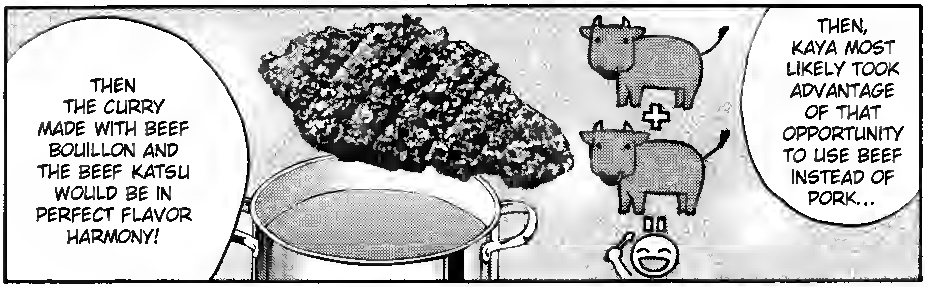
WHY ARE YOU SO FASCINATED BY THAT KATSU CURRY?
THERE'S SOMEONE I WANT TO COOK IT FOR!
華屋敷
OOH!
MY NAME IS NANASE MAHIRO. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU!
SO NANASE-CHAN... YOU'RE A GIRL AND YET YOU WANT TO BE A CHEF?
YUP!


I MUST SEE THE LOOK ON HER FACE WHEN SHE EATS IT ONCE MORE...
NO MATTER WHAT...

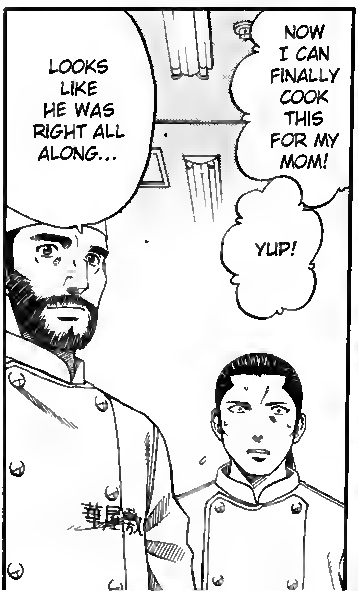
IT'S PERFECT ...
THIS IS KAYA'S ORIGINAL KATSU CURRY...

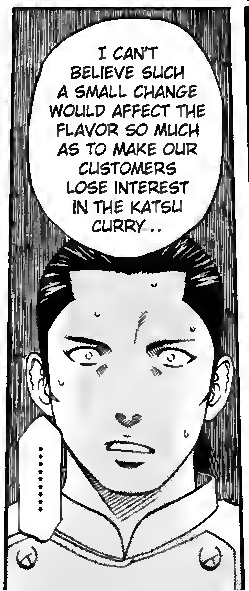
YOU DID IT, E-CUP-CHAN!!
KUINIGE -KUN!!
THANK YOU!
KYAA-AAA!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
!?
OF COURSE... FROM SOUTHERN PORK TO WESTERN BEEF...
NO, IT WASN'T...
WHAT?
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU KUI-NIGE-KUN!

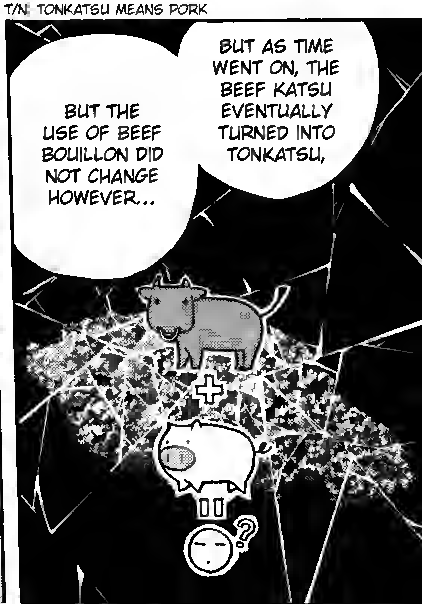
KANSAI USED TO BE VERY FAMOUS FOR THEIR BEEF PRODUCTION.
AND THUS, BEEF FROM KANSAI WAS CONSIDERED HIGH QUALITY.
NOW-A-DAY'S PEOPLE THINK OF PORK WHEN THEY HEAR KATSU.
BUT THERE WAS A TIME WHEN KATSU MEANT BEEF, NOT PORK.
華屋


THEN THE CURRY MADE WITH BEEF BOUILLON AND THE BEEF KATSU WOULD BE IN PERFECT FLAVOR HARMONY!
THEN, KAYA MOST LIKELY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THAT OPPORTUNITY TO USE BEEF INSTEAD OF PORK...

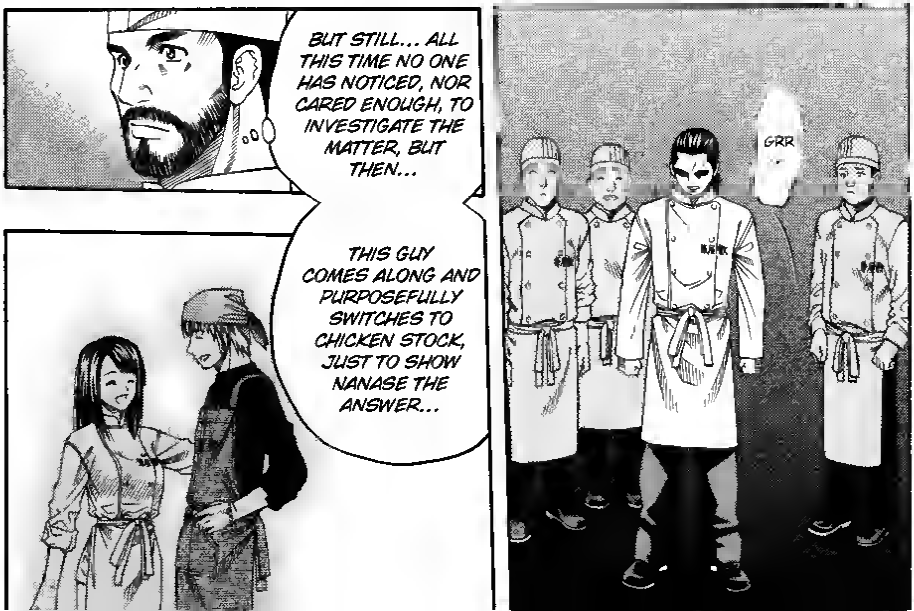
T/N: TONKATSU MEANS PORK

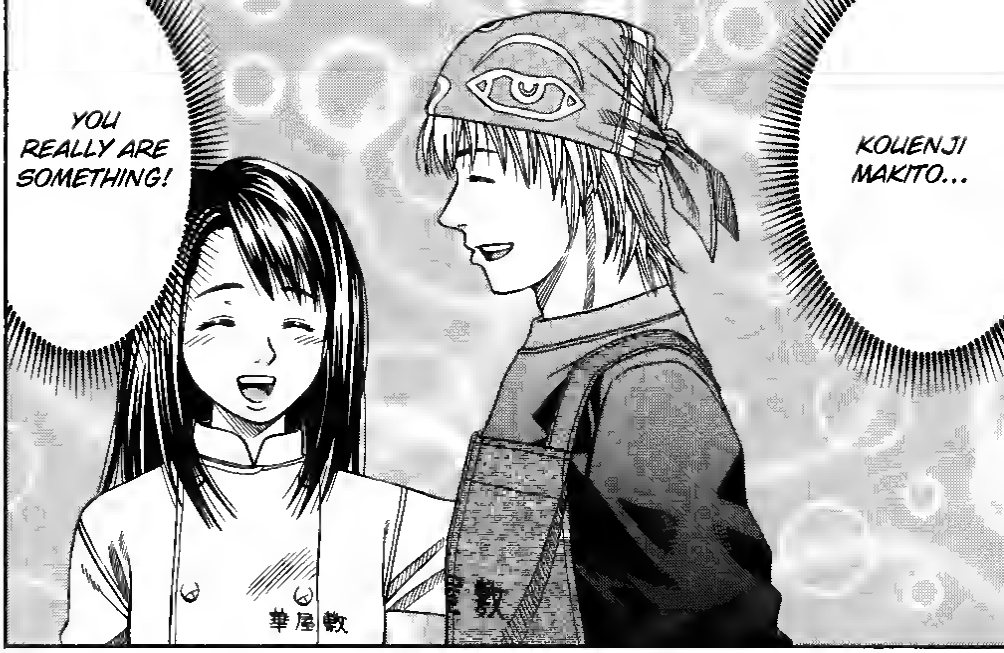



I CAN'T BELIEVE SUCH A SMALL CHANGE WOULD AFFECT THE FLAVOR SO MUCH AS TO MAKE OUR CUSTOMERS LOSE INTEREST IN THE KATSU CURRY..
.....



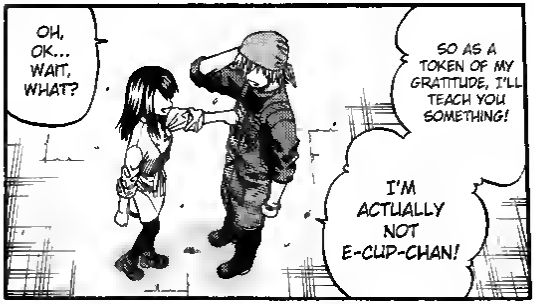
JUST YOU WAIT, MOM!
HE REALLY IS THE CHEF HE SAID HE IS!


BUT STILL... ALL THIS TIME NO ONE HAS NOTICED, NOR CARED ENOUGH, TO INVESTIGATE THE MATTER, BUT THEN...
THIS GUY COMES ALONG AND PURPOSEFULLY SWITCHES TO CHICKEN STOCK, JUST TO SHOW NANASE THE ANSWER...
GRR


YOU REALLY ARE SOMETHING!
KOUENJI MAKITO...

THEN ON BEHALF OF ALL THE STAFF HERE, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
EH HEH ...
I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH, KUINIGE-KUN!
NO PROB-LEM.

SO YOU DIDN'T REALIZE IT, HUH . ?
WELL ...
WHY DID YOU USE CHICKEN BROTH ALL OF A SUDDEN?
BUT I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU THAT KAYA'S CURRY WAS MADE WITH BEEF BROTH.


OH, OK... WAIT, WHAT?
SO AS A TOKEN OF MY GRATITUDE, I'LL TEACH YOU SOMETHING!
I'M ACTUALLY NOT E-CUP-CHAN!

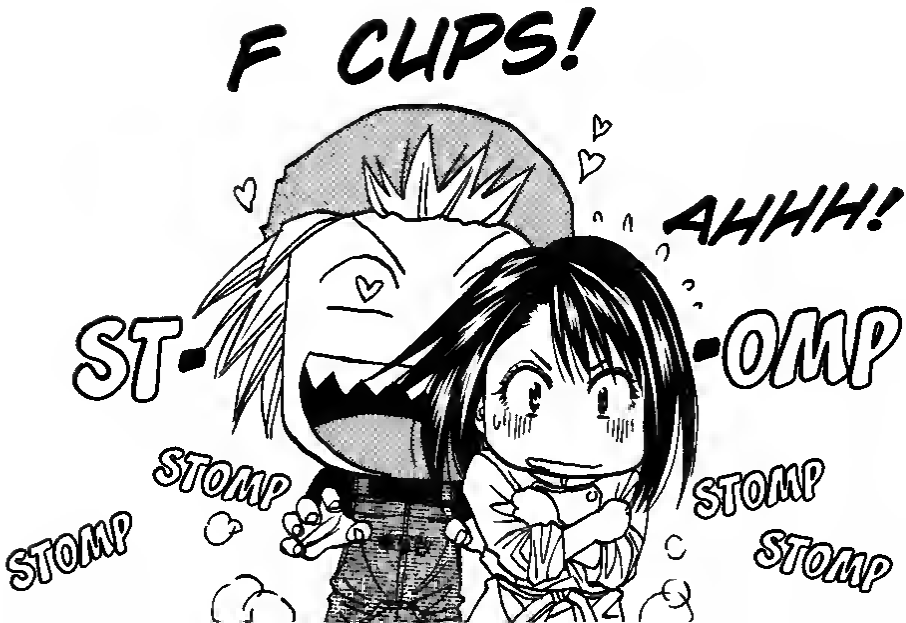
ALSO, THE CURRY YOU COOKED EARLIER... THE ONE WITH THE CHICKEN STOCK...
DIDN'T MATCH KAYA'S ORIGINAL RECIPE, BUT IT WASN'T BAD...

I'M F-CUP-CHAN.
FO--
...
FOR REAL?!
THERE'S A CERTAIN SOMEONE I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO FIND
LET ME GUESS... ANOTHER CONTESTANT?
DID YOU CALL FOR ME? YUKINARI-SAMA...

TO "EDIBLE-FIGHT."
DO WHATEVER YOU MUST TO, TOO BRING HIM HERE...
YES...
.....
WHO IS IT?
KOUENJI MAKITO!

華麗なる食卓（カレー）

～Addicted to curry～



CHAPTER 99: THE ENTRUSTED STAFF LUNCH AND THE KHANOM CHIN

.....
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

ZZZ
ZZZ

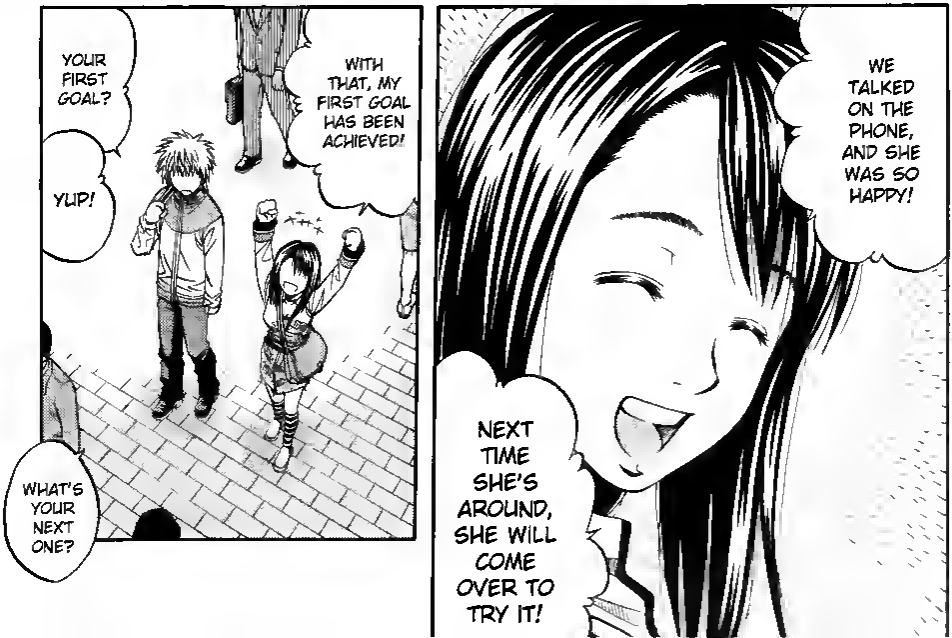
MMM...

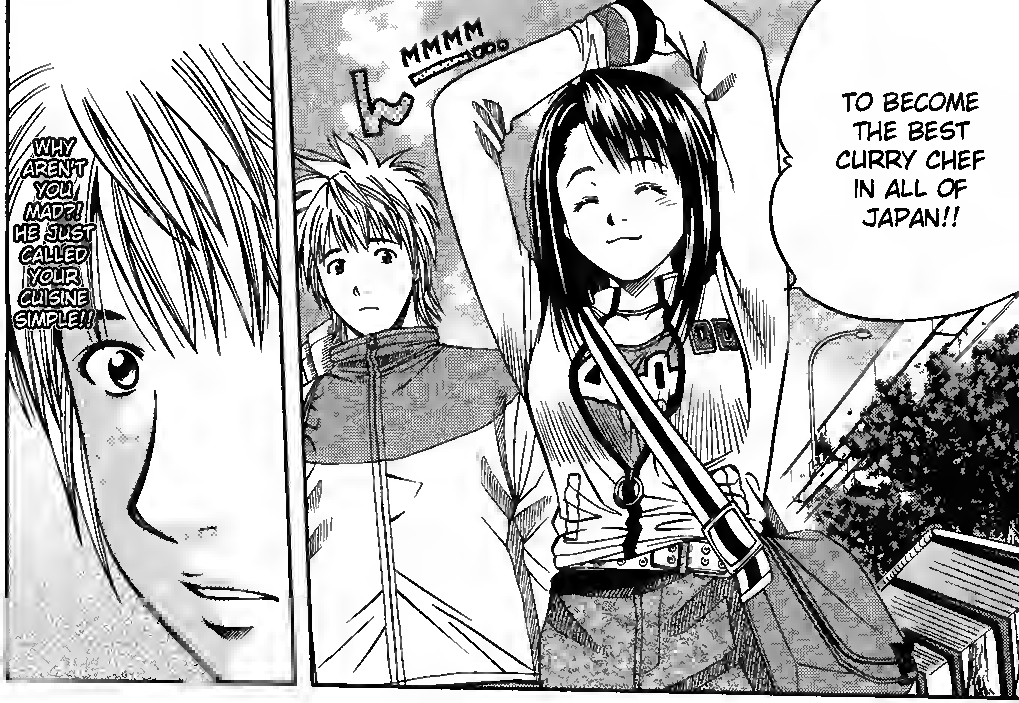
HM?

CHAPTER 99: THE ENTRUSTED STAFF LUNCH AND THE KHANOM CHIN

YUP.
THAT'S SO DANGEROUS! YOU COULD'VE CAUGHT A COLD...
AFTER WORK YESTERDAY, YOU WENT AROUND LOOKING FOR THIS PERSON AND THEN FELL ASLEEP BACK THERE?
SO
SO, YOU WERE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE?
UH HUH.

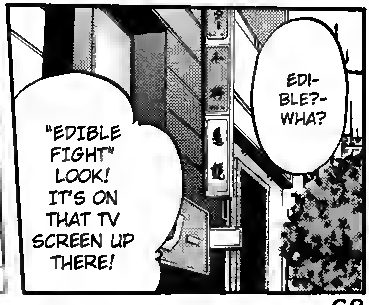
THE KATSU CURRY THING?
YEAH!
OH, BY THE WAY, I TOLD MY MOM YESTERDAY!
HAHA.
DON'T TELL ME WE HAVE TO START CALLING YOU HOMELESS-KUN NOW...


YOUR FIRST GOAL?
YUP!
WITH THAT, MY FIRST GOAL HAS BEEN ACHIEVED!
WHAT'S YOUR NEXT ONE?
WE TALKED ON THE PHONE, AND SHE WAS SO HAPPY!
NEXT TIME SHE'S AROUND, SHE WILL COME OVER TO TRY IT!

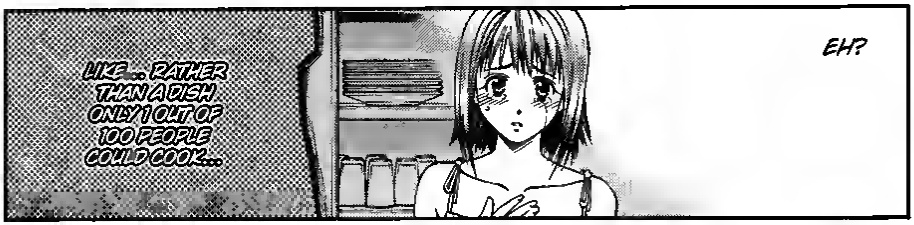

WHY AREN'T YOU MAD?! HE JUST CALLED YOUR CUISINE SIMPLE!!
MMMM
TO BECOME THE BEST CURRY CHEF IN ALL OF JAPAN!!

THERE'S DIFFERENT GENRES... FOR EXAMPLE, SUSHI OR PIZZA...
IT'S A TV SHOW WHERE THEY DECIDE THE BEST CHEFS IN JAPAN THROUGH COOKING COMPETI-TIONS!
THEY FIND THE MOST PROMISING FAMOUS CHEFS ALL OVER JAPAN AND PUT THEM AGAINST EACH OTHER IN VARIOUS THEME COOKING BATTLES!

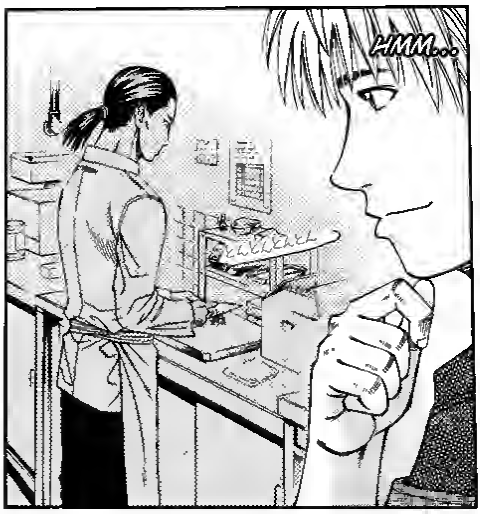
WHAT?
HUH?
OH YEAH, KUINIGE-KUN! DO YOU KNOW ABOUT "EDIBLE FIGHT"?


"EDIBLE FIGHT" LOOK! IT'S ON THAT TV SCREEN UP THERE!
EDI-BLE?-WHA?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH SIMPLE?
YOU AREN'T ANGRY?! HE JUST SAID CURRY IS A SIMPLE DISH THAT ANYONE CAN COOK!!
THEY ARE DOING PASTA RIGHT NOW .. I WONDER IF THEY WILL EVER DO A CURRY BATTLE...
.....
I WOULD TOTALLY COMPETE IN IT!...
And then shoot for number one!!


LIKE... RATHER THAN A DISH ONLY 1 OUT OF 100 PEOPLE COULD COOK...
EH?

AND THEN SHOOT FOR NUMBER ONE!
I'D PREFER A SIMPLE DISH THAT 100 OUT OF 100 PEOPLE COULD COOK!
NUMBER ONE HUH...

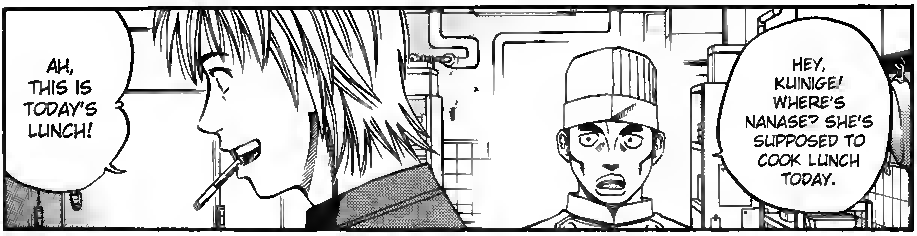


I didn't think you'd really come back
YOU REALLY WANTED TO KEEP THAT PROMISE, HUH?
I'LL TELL YOU NOW, DON'T GET IN MY WAY! YOU'LL JUST BE AN EYESORE!

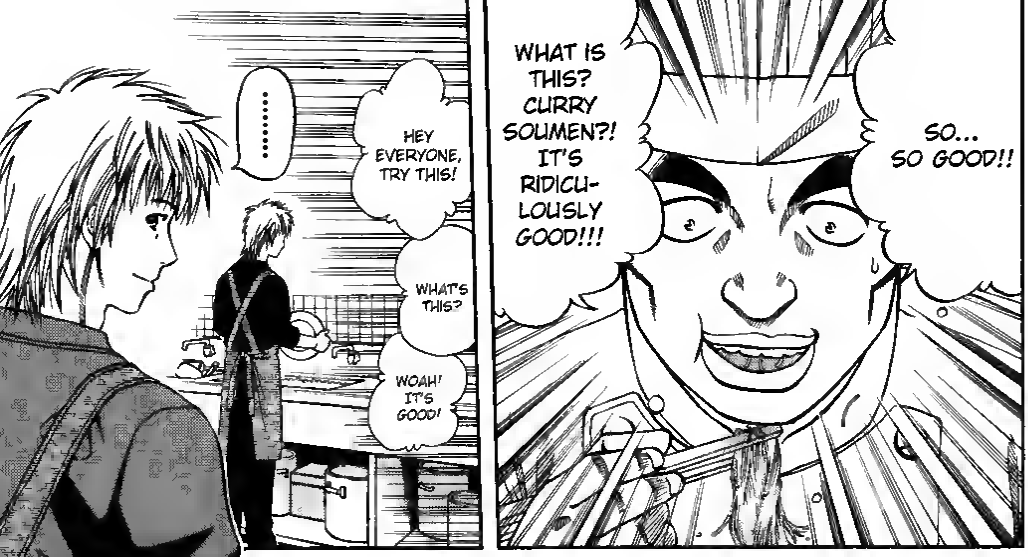
SFX CLING CLANG (DISHES HITTING COUNTERTOP SOUNDS)

CLEAN THE FLOORS TOO, KUINIGE-KUN!
KUINIGE-KUN! WASH THIS TOO!
YESSIR!
YESSIR!
COMING RIGHT UP!
2 KATSU CURRIES PLEASE!
3 KATSU CURRIES FOR TABLE 5!
SO?
ACTUALLY, I WAS GOING TO BUY A BUN FOR LUNCH TODAY.
SO, YOU SEE...
PLAIN SOUMEN IS SO EASY TO MAKE. ALL YOU HAFTA DO IS BOIL IT... AND I'M NOT EVEN GONNA EAT IT SO WHY DO I HAFTA BE THE ONE TO COOK IT FOR EVERYONE?!
WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S SOUMEN! THE HEAD CHEF GOT IT DURING THE OBON FESTIVAL LAST YEAR.
HE TOLD ME TO TAKE IT OUT OF THE PANTRY!
お中元
HEY NANASE! CAN YOU COOK THE STAFF LUNCH TODAY?
EH? YOU WANT ME TO COOK IT?
LUNCH IS READY!! COME AND GET IT!!

SFX BATAN! (THUD/CRASH)
ばたん
……
EH? WHAT IS THIS?
AS YOU CAN SEE IT'S, SOUMEN.
DIVIDE IT UP AMONGST EVERYONE
I'm going to go buy some bread

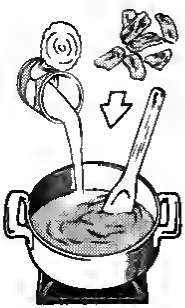

AH, THIS IS TODAY'S LUNCH!
HEY, KUNIGE! WHERE'S NANASE? SHE'S SUPPOSED TO COOK LUNCH TODAY.

THE HELL IS THIS?
That guy's gone and made some-thing completely weird again.
SLURRRRP
/

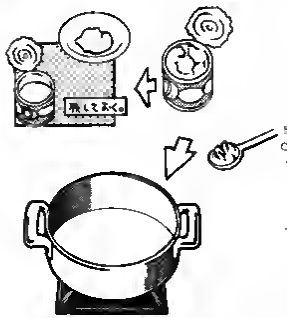


KHANOM CHIN (SERVES 4)

Soumen 4 bundles
Coconut milk 1 can
Red curry paste 1 to 2 table spoons
Beef 200g like half a pound
Green beans onions or other assorted vegetables
Fish sauce Basil leaves, salt
Sugar to taste

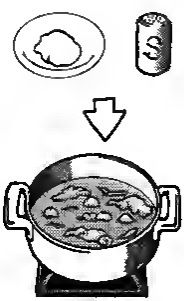


② Cut beef into bite size pieces and add to pot. Add in the liquid portion of the coconut milk. Add water if you think there isn't enough liquid in the pot. Should be like a broth or stock, not thick.



① When opening a can of coconut milk, there will be a solid portion of it. Place half of the solid portion into a pot reserving the rest. Turn heat to high and cook until simmering. Then add the red curry paste and stir well.

⑤ Cook enough bundles of soumen for everyone as per the packages instruction. Pour the curry sauce on top and garnish with basil. Enjoy.

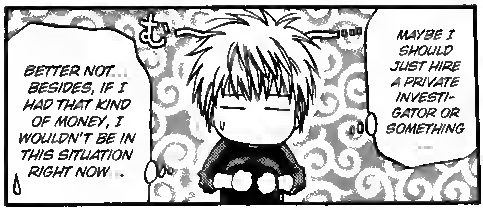


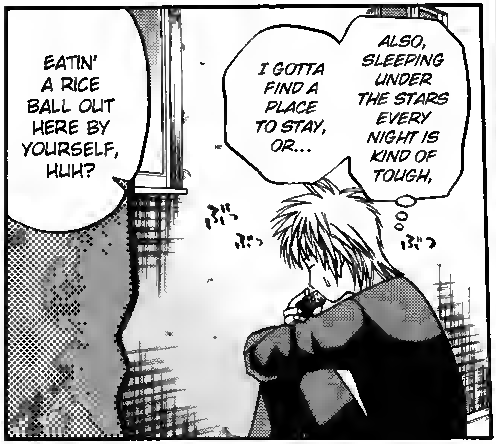
④ Add salt to taste. Add the reserved coconut milk solids.

③ Cut vegetables into bite size pieces and add to the pot. Bring to a boil and add fish sauce to taste. Prep basil for garnish later.

IT WAS AMAZING! THANK YOU!
EH?
OH, NANASE! TODAY'S LUNCH WAS SO DELICIOUS!
EH?
ALRIGHTY, DONE WITH LUNCH. NOW BACK TO WORK!
DON'T TELL ME...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
IT WAS VERY DELICIOUS!
WHAT? WHY? I JUST MADE SOME SOUMEN...
AH! MAHIRO-CHAN! TODAY'S LUNCH WAS THE BEST!
PLEASE [illegible] FOR US AGAIN SO[illegible]-TIME!
!?
KUINIGE-KUN!!!
RUNNING FOOTSTEPS

I COOKED IT LIKE I WOULD NORMALLY, BUT EVERYONE SEEMED TO LOVE IT!
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW I COULD COOK SOUMEN SO WELL!
ER...
EH? WHAT'S WRONG?
LISTEN TO THIS!
IT SEEMS LIKE I'M ALSO A GENIUS AT COOKING SOUMEN!!
CRAP, SHE FOUND OUT...
Was it bad?
I'm just gonna take my lunch break now...
OH, I AM JUST SO AWESOME!! <3
DOES EVERYTHING I MAKE WITHOUT PUTTING ANY EFFORT INTO IT COME OUT AMAZING?!
DID I JUST BECOME A GENIUS MASTER CHEF AFTER THAT THING FROM YESTERDAY?!


MAYBE I SHOULD JUST HIRE A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR OR SOMETHING
BETTER NOT... BESIDES, IF I HAD THAT KIND OF MONEY, I WOULDN'T BE IN THIS SITUATION RIGHT NOW...


ALSO, SLEEPING UNDER THE STARS EVERY NIGHT IS KIND OF TOUGH,
I GOTTA FIND A PLACE TO STAY, OR...
EATIN' A RICE BALL OUT HERE BY YOURSELF, HUH?

HE LIVES SOMEWHERE IN OSAKA
MAYBE IF YOU GO THERE, PERHAPS...
EVEN THOUGH HE SAID THAT..
JUST KNOWING HIS NAME WILL ONLY GET ME SO FAR SO QUICK...

WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE REST OF US INSIDE?
THE STUFF NANASE MADE WAS PRETTY GOOD.

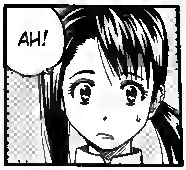
華屋敷
HEAD CHEF...

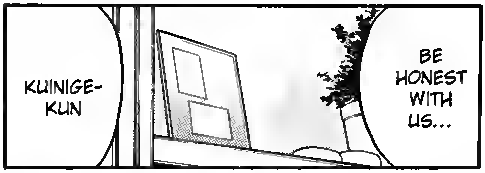
IN THE EPICENTER OF CURRY, SOUTH-EAST ASIA, THERE ARE A TON OF DISHES WHERE NOODLES ARE COMBINED WITH CURRY.
KHANOM CHIN IS ONE OF THEM.
IT'S A THAI DISH WITH A THAI NAME AND NORMALLY IS MADE WITH A KIND OF RICE NOODLE.
I THINK IT WAS "KHANOM CHIN".
I NEED TO TALK WITH YOU SO COME, WITH ME
AH, OKAY.
BUT KNOWING TO SUBSTITUTE SOUMEN FOR THE TRADITIONAL RICE NOODLES.
JUST DOESN'T SOUND LIKE SOMETHING THE NANASE I KNOW WOULD DO.
.....

EXCUSE US!

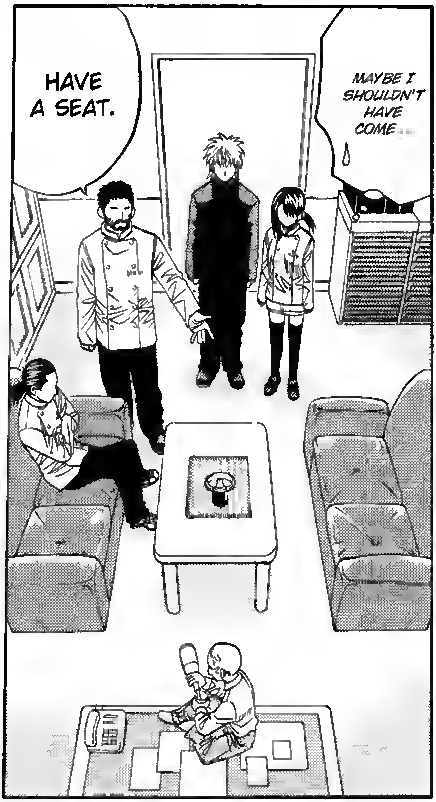
WHY ARE YOU COMING WITH US?
Oh, heed ohe! are you trying to kiss me?
BECAUSE KUINIGE-KUN IS MY APPRENTICE, RIGHT?
SINCE WHEN?!
LAST NIGHT

!


AH!


KUINIGE-KUN
BE HONEST WITH US...

DO YOU WANT TO OFFICIALLY
WORK FOR KAYA?


HAVE A SEAT.
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME...

DO YOU REALLY MEAN IT?!
WHA?
YES. WELL, OBVIOUSLY, HE'LL ONLY BE OBSERVING AT FIRST
BUT EVENTUALLY, WHEN HE STARTS COOKING FOR REAL, WE WILL START PAYING HIM A SALARY.
YOU MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO WORK OFF ALL THE FOOD YOU ATE IN JUST ONE DAY...
ISN'T THAT GREAT, KUINIGE-KUN?! NOW THAT YOU'RE AN EMPLOYEE, YOU CAN STAY IN THE DORMS!!!
NOW YOU DON'T HAVE TO SLEEP OUTSIDE IN THE COLD!!
NO WAY!! REALLY?!!
YEAH YOU ARE WELCOME TO STAY AT THE DORMS IF YOU'D LIKE...
REALLY!?

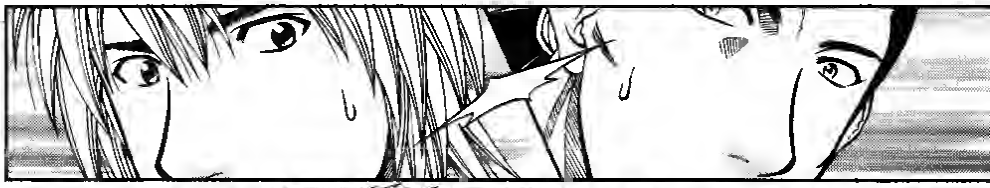
WAIT JUST ONE SECOND... PLEASE!!
I REFUSE TO APPROVE OF THIS COMPLETE NOBODY!!
HE ISN'T EVEN A COOK!! HE'S JUST SOME DINE AND DASHER!!
HE MAY DINE AND DASH BUT HE'S VERY GOOD AT COOKING CURRY!
SHUT UP!! YOU ARE TO REMAIN SILENT!!
カチーン
YOU'RE TELLING ME TO SHUT UP JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE THE CHIEF?!?
THIS IS A DECISION FOR THE MANAGER AND HEAD CHEF TO MAKE!!
SHUT THE HELL UP!! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY?! NO ONE TOLD YOU TO COME HERE!!
SINCE WHEN?!
LAST NIGHT!!
I'M KUINIGE-KUN'S MENTOR!!
SHOUTIN' AT EACH OTHER, CAUSING SUCH A RUCKUS
IF Y'ALL GOT YER PANTIES IN A BUNCH, THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE THING Y'ALL CAN DO!!
are you fricken retarded?!
Your voices are disgusting...
Tadokoro shocked...
SHUT YER DAMN PIE HOLES!!!!!!

!?
SFX: HEARTBEATING
A SHOWDOWN BETWEEN TWO COOKS IS OBVIOUSLY GONNA BE A COOKING MATCH!!
DUMB-ASS.
BESIDES, YOU'RE NOT THE ONE FIGHTING.
PUNCH
WHOOSH
S... SURE... BRING IT ON...
YOU TWO ARE GONNA HAVE A SHOWDOWN!!
YA SAID HE'S GOOD AT COOKIN' CURRY, RIGHT?
JUST MAKE IT A CURRY BATTLE!
WAIT DO YOU MEAN, KUINIGE-KUN AND THE HEAD CHEF ARE GONNA DUEL?!
IF KAITANI WINS, THEN THIS DISCUSSION NEVER HAPPENED!
IF KUINIGE WINS, HE'S HIRED.
THE BETTER TASTING CURRY WINS!
KAITANI AND KUINIGE BOTH MAKE ONE CURRY EACH.

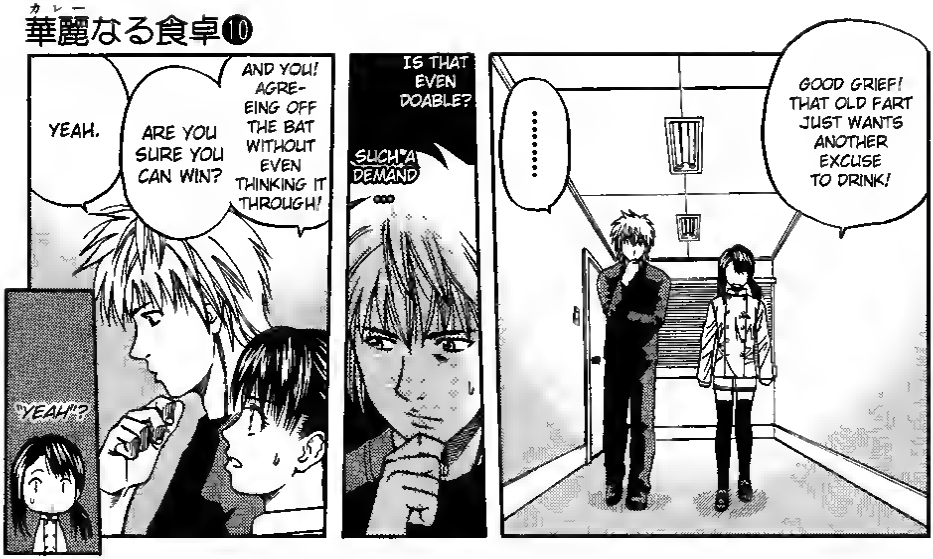
TO BE FRANK.
I DO NOT SEE THIS BEING MUCH OF A FIGHT.
華屋敷
HOW'S THAT SOUND? KAITANI.
FINE WITH ME.
AND YOU, KUINIGE?
I MISS SLEEPING IN A BED!!!
I'm gonna die...
I'm gonna die...
Owowow! I'm still alive! Stupid dog!
IN THE END...
DON'T PISS ME OFF YA STUPID KIDS!!
Going back to those painful nights outside or doing this match.
華屋敷
HONESTLY
I DID NOT EXPECT THINGS TO GO LIKE THIS, BUT...

NOW YOU'RE IN FOR IT, KUNIGE!!
I WILL WIN...
WITH ALL MY MIGHT!!
ALRIGHT! MATCH STARTS AT 10 TOMORROW MORNING!
I WILL BE THE JUDGE!
THE THEME WILL BE...

CURRY THAT GOES GOOD WITH ALCOHOL !!!
BOOZE!!
大吟醸
志雲戒

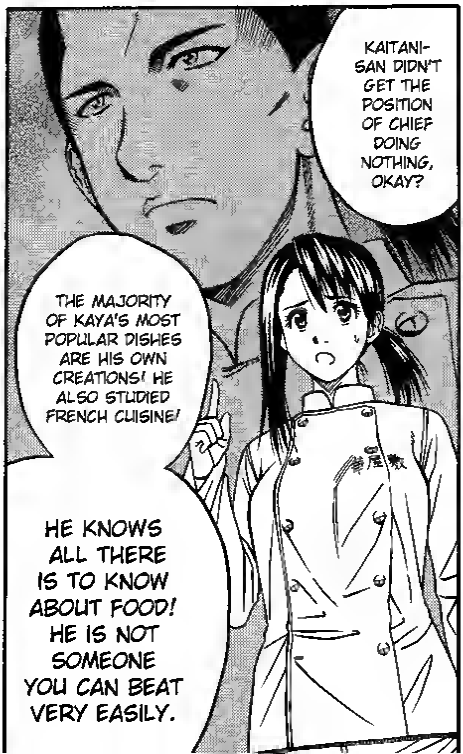


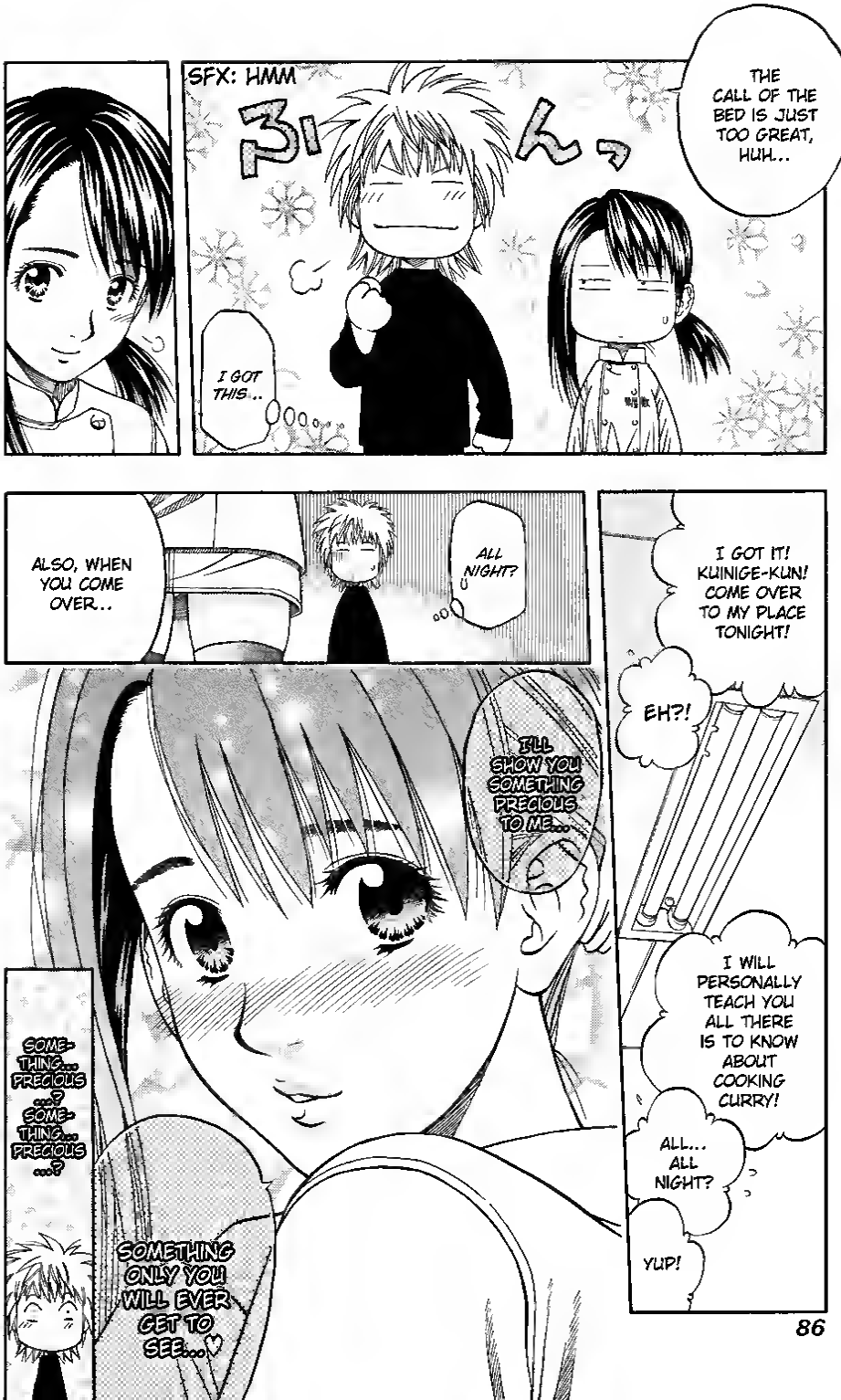
ROUND 2 FIGHT!!
A CURRY THAT GOES GOOD WITH ALCOHOL....

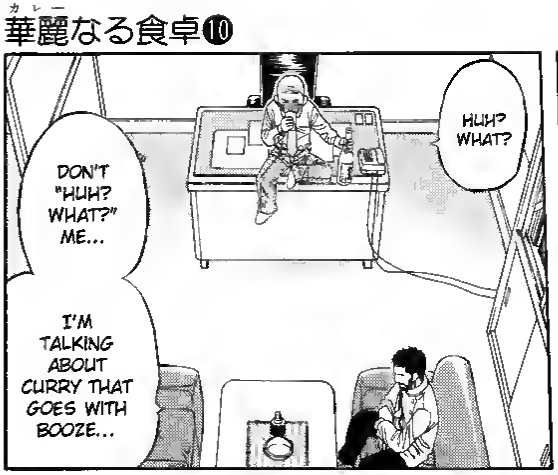

AND YOU! AGREEING OFF THE BAT WITHOUT EVEN THINKING IT THROUGH!
ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN WIN?
YEAH.
"YEAH!"?
IS THAT EVEN DOABLE?
SUCH A DEMAND
GOOD GRIEF! THAT OLD FART JUST WANTS ANOTHER EXCUSE TO DRINK!
.....

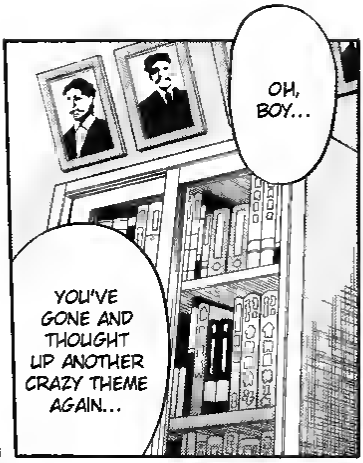
EVEN SO, I WILL WIN!
NO DOUBT!

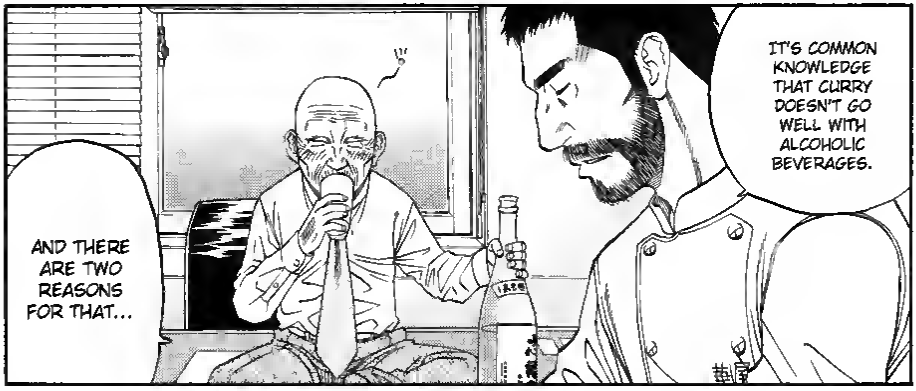
YOU SEEM TO NOT GET THE WEIGHT OF THE SITUATION, SO I'LL JUST TELL YOU NOW...
YA KNOW...


KAITANI-SAN DIDN'T GET THE POSITION OF CHIEF DOING NOTHING, OKAY?
THE MAJORITY OF KAYA'S MOST POPULAR DISHES ARE HIS OWN CREATIONS! HE ALSO STUDIED FRENCH CUISINE!
HE KNOWS ALL THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT FOOD! HE IS NOT SOMEONE YOU CAN BEAT VERY EASILY.


SFX: HMM
ふーん
THE CALL OF THE BED IS JUST TOO GREAT, HUH...
I GOT THIS..
I GOT IT! KUINGE-KUN! COME OVER TO MY PLACE TONIGHT!
EH?!
I WILL PERSONALLY TEACH YOU ALL THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT COOKING CURRY!
ALL... ALL NIGHT?
YUP!
ALSO, WHEN YOU COME OVER..
ALL NIGHT?
I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING PRECIOUS TO ME...
SOME-THING... PRECIOUS ...? SOME-THING... PRECIOUS ...?
SOMETHING ONLY YOU WILL EVER GET TO SEE...♡


HUH? WHAT?
DON'T "HUH? WHAT?" ME...
I'M TALKING ABOUT CURRY THAT GOES WITH BOOZE...


OH, BOY...
YOU'VE GONE AND THOUGHT UP ANOTHER CRAZY THEME AGAIN...

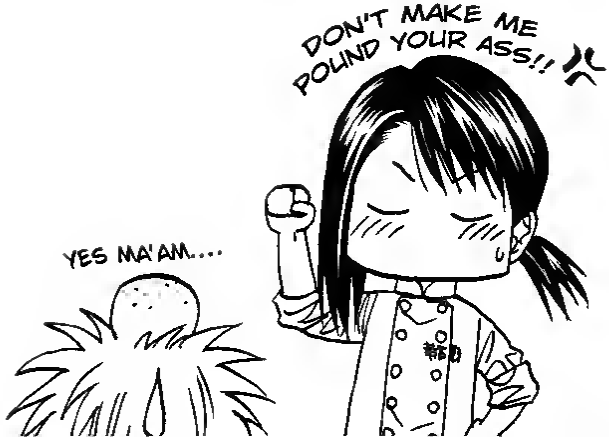

IT'S COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT CURRY DOESN'T GO WELL WITH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.
AND THERE ARE TWO REASONS FOR THAT...

THE FIRST REASON IS .. THERE AREN'T ANY ALCOHOLIC DRINKS THAT CAN STAND UP TO THE STRONG AROMAS OF SPICES IN CURRY...
THE STIMULUS FROM SPICES OVER-WHELMS THE ALCOHOL, SO IT'S HARD TO THINK OF A DRINK THAT COULD WORK...
AND THE OTHER REASON IS...
OH, HUSH! IT'LL BE FINE!
THAT JUST MEANS WHOEVER CAN FIGURE IT OUT REALLY DESERVES THE WIN!
RIGHT, MASAKI?

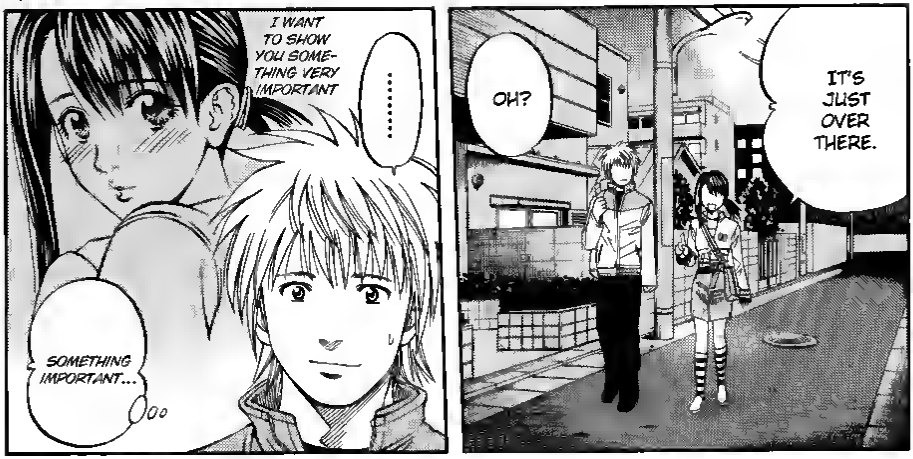
IF HE'S REALLY AS GOOD AS YOU SAY...
Kuinige-kun~ <3
BY SOMETHING PRECIOUS... THAT'S GOTTA BE IT!
A REAL MONSTER IN THE KITCHEN...
FUHUHUHU♥
?

華麗なる食卓 カレー

~Addicted to curry~

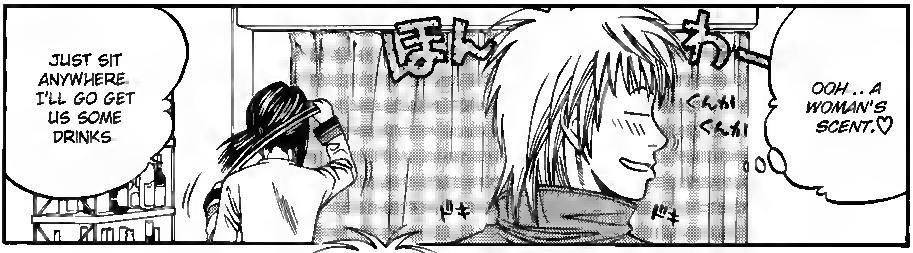


CHAPTER 100:
THE OLD MAN THAT LIKES TO DRINK AND THE TWO CURRIES

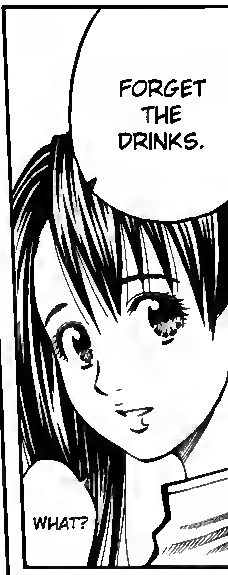

I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT
.....
SOMETHING IMPORTANT...
OH?
IT'S JUST OVER THERE.

IT'S GOTTA BE THAT, RIGHT?
もん
もん
もん
もん

NO, NOT AT ALL.
COME IN! COME IN! IT'S A LITTLE SMALL, BUT...


JUST SIT ANYWHERE. I'LL GO GET US SOME DRINKS.
OOH.. A WOMAN'S SCENT.♡

HUH?


FORGET THE DRINKS.
WHAT?

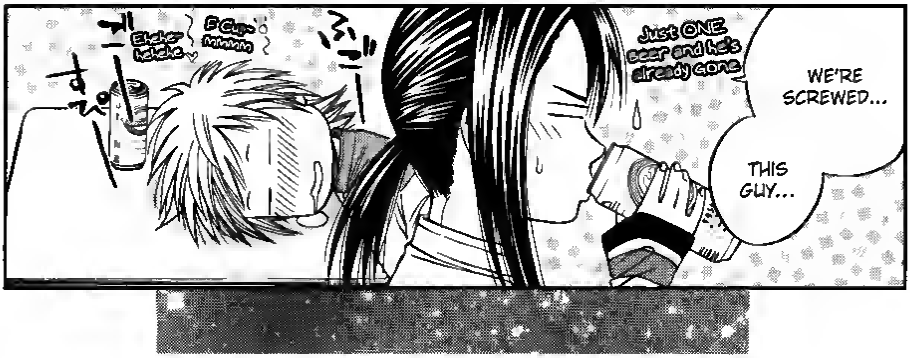
YOU'RE SO IMPATIENT.
.....
GEEZ...
JUST HURRY UP...
AND SHOW ME WHAT YOU WANTED TO SHOW ME.
ドン
ドン
ドン
ドン
F-CUP-CHAN...
F-CUP-CHAN...!
.....
ドン
ドン
ドン
ドン
WAIT, WHAT?
F...
HERE IT IS
ドン・・・

THE THING IS...
I'M KIND OF A DRINKING ENTHUSIAST.
たぽん
米吟醸
純米吟醸
峰乃姫
Castle
WHISKY
SARK
SDF
とくん!!

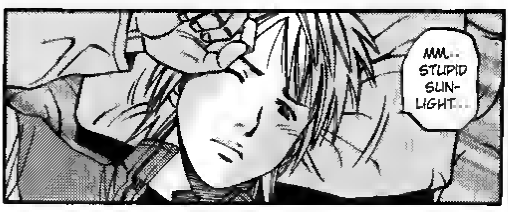
GYAAAAAAAAAAH!!
squishy squishy
squishy squishy
squishy squishy
squishy squishy
squishy squishy
WAAAAAAAAAAH!!
WHAT THE HELL YOU DOING?!
SOB SOB SOB SOB SOB SOB SOB SOB
I WANT TO KEEP UP MY IMAGE OF BEING A GOOD GIRL.
BUT DON'T TELL ANYONE AT KAYA, OKAY?!
.....

YOU HAVE TO DRINK!!
WHAT DRINK DO YOU WANT, KUINIGE-KUN, BEER?
NO THANKS
I DON'T DRINK...
DOESN'T DRINK...
HUH?
YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE A CURRY THAT GOES WITH ALCOHOL, RIGHT?
HOW DO YOU PLAN ON DOING THAT IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE TASTE OF ALCOHOL?!
OH...
YOU ARE GONNA DRINK YOURSELF A NEW CURRY RECIPE! STARTING WITH BEER!
TASTE THE ALCOHOL!
NO REALLY, I...
Shaddup and start drinking!!
AND YOUR OPPONENT JUST HAD TO BE THAT KAITANI!
THERE WON'T EVEN BE A MATCH! JUST A GIANT ONE-SIDED SLAUGHTER!

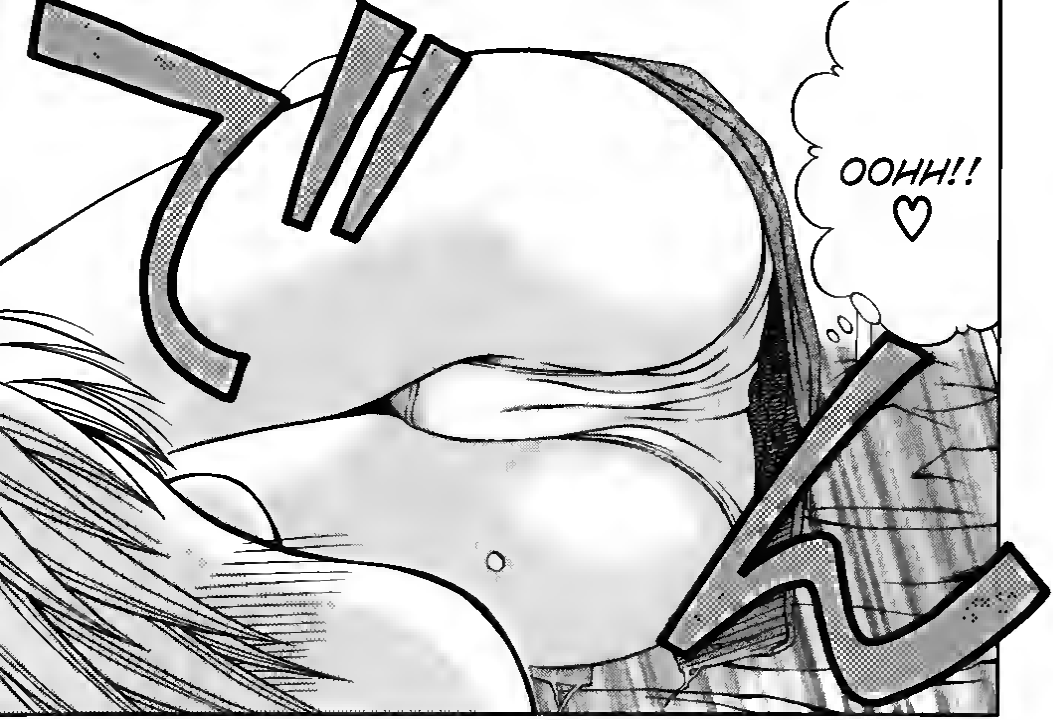
SO...

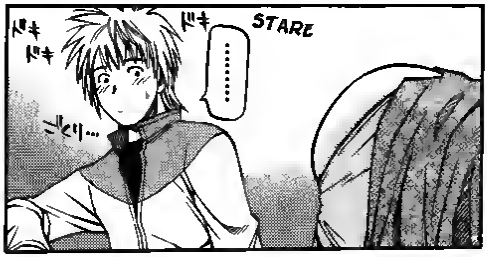

Glug Glug
Ahhh
Just ONE beer and he's already gone
WE'RE SCREWED...
THIS GUY...

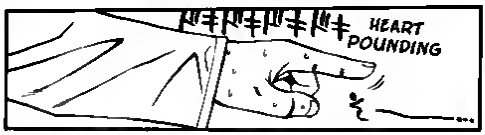
Zzzz...
Zzzz...


MM... STUPID SUN-LIGHT...

KAWW
KAWW


OOHH!!

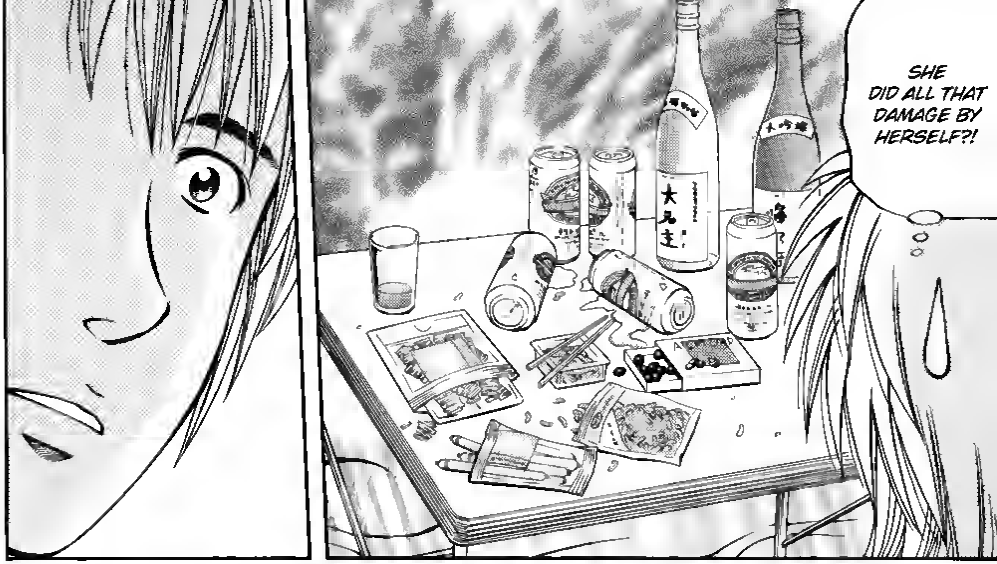

STARE

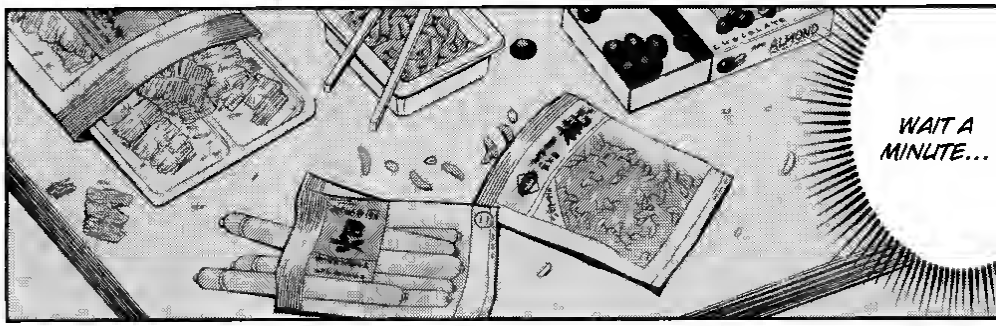

HEART POUNDING

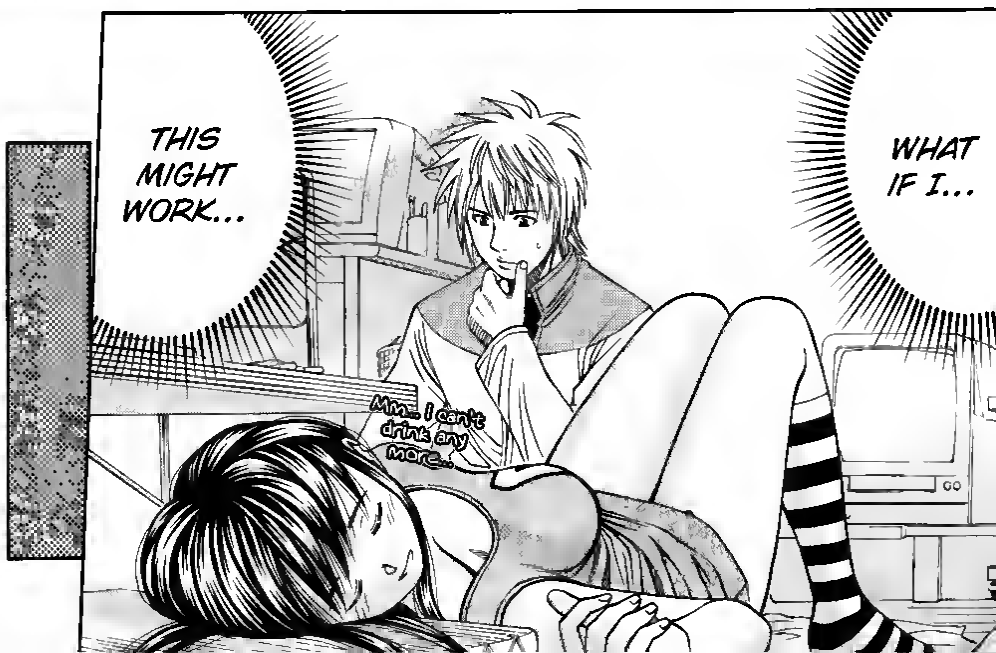
HEART SUPER POUNDING
that was close

MM
OH, SHIT

SHE SHOVED THAT BEER DOWN MY THROAT LAST NIGHT AND ..
OH, RIGHT ...
SN-OOO-ORE


SHE DID ALL THAT DAMAGE BY HERSELF?!

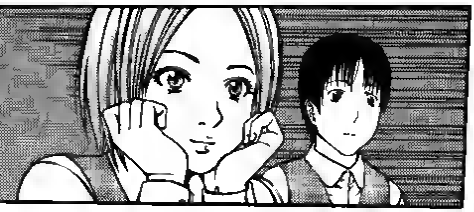

WAIT A MINUTE...

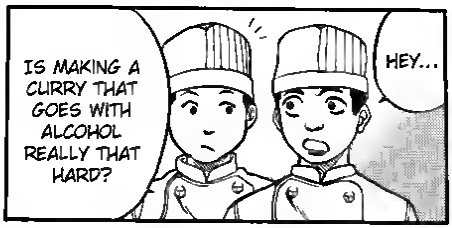

THIS MIGHT WORK...
WHAT IF I...
Mmm... I can't drink any more...

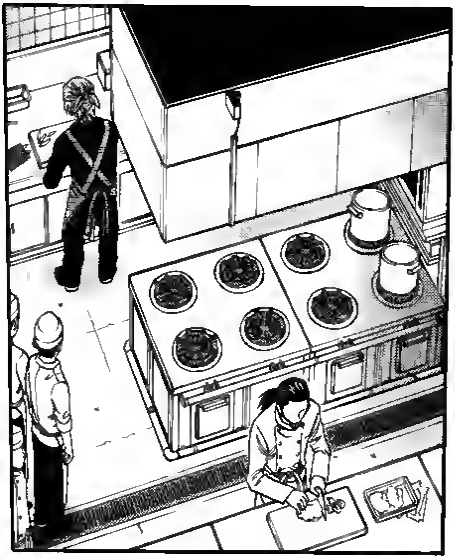
I'M NOT SURE, BUT APPARENTLY THE CHIEF CHEF AND SOME NEW GUY ARE HAVING A FOOD BATTLE.
WHAT'S GOIN' ON OVER THERE?
?
FOOD BATTLE? LIKE, ON EDIBLE FIGHT?
YEAH!
IT'S A GOOD THING WE'RE NOT BUSY RIGHT NOW...
THIS EDIBLE FIGHT SOUNDS VERY INTERESTING...
IS THAT THE NEW GUY?
HEY, WHERE'S NANASE? IS SHE AT HOME SICK?
SHE HASN'T CALLED IN YET.
THAT DOOFUS
MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE WOKEN HER UP.
But it was so early.
LET'S GET THIS STARTED!

ONCE AGAIN, THE THEME OF THE MATCH IS CURRY THAT GOES WITH BOOZE!
KAITANI AND KUINIGE ARE TO PREPARE ONE DISH EACH. WHICHEVER ONE TASTES BETTER WINS!
IF KUINIGE WINS, HE WILL BE OFFICIALLY HIRED AND WILL BE GIVEN ROOM AND BOARD!
IF KAITANI WINS, THEN THAT DOES NOT HAPPEN.
IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SAVE YOURSELF FROM EMBARRASSMENT AND DROP OUT.
SORRY. I GUESS I'M JUST NOT AS SMART AS YOU.
READY?! SET!!
GO!!!

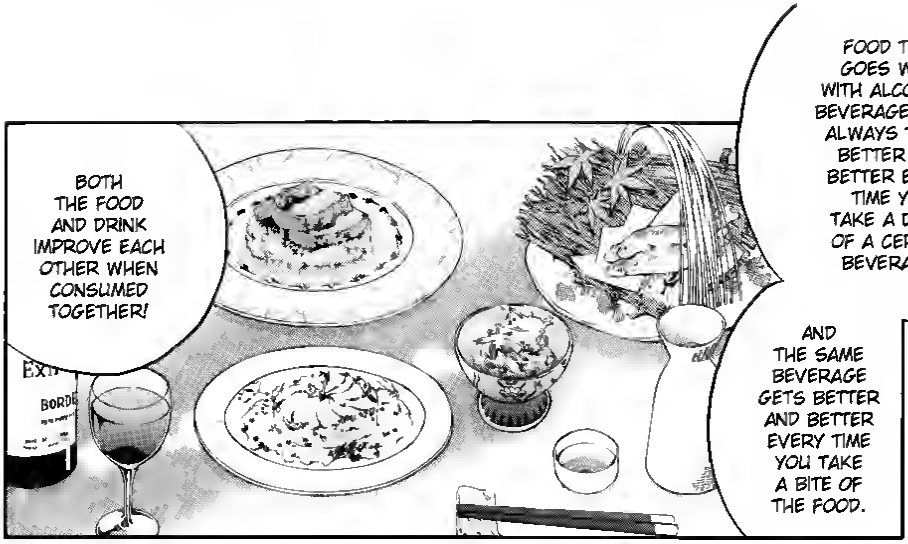
ハァ



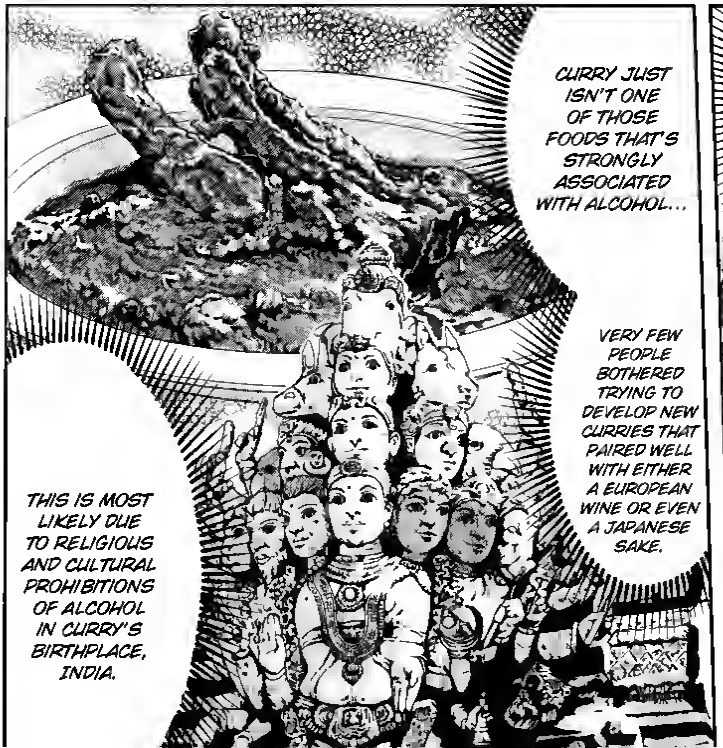

IS MAKING A CURRY THAT GOES WITH ALCOHOL REALLY THAT HARD?
HEY...



PROBABLY NOT, RIGHT? I MEAN, I ALWAYS HAVE A BEER WHENEVER I EAT MY CURRY.
HEAD CHEF?
YOU DUM-BASSES!
THAT IS NOT WHAT THE MANAGER MEANT BY A CURRY THAT GOES WITH BOOZE.


FOOD THAT GOES WELL WITH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WILL ALWAYS TASTE BETTER AND BETTER EVERY TIME YOU TAKE A DRINK OF A CERTAIN BEVERAGE.
BOTH THE FOOD AND DRINK IMPROVE EACH OTHER WHEN CONSUMED TOGETHER!
AND THE SAME BEVERAGE GETS BETTER AND BETTER EVERY TIME YOU TAKE A BITE OF THE FOOD.

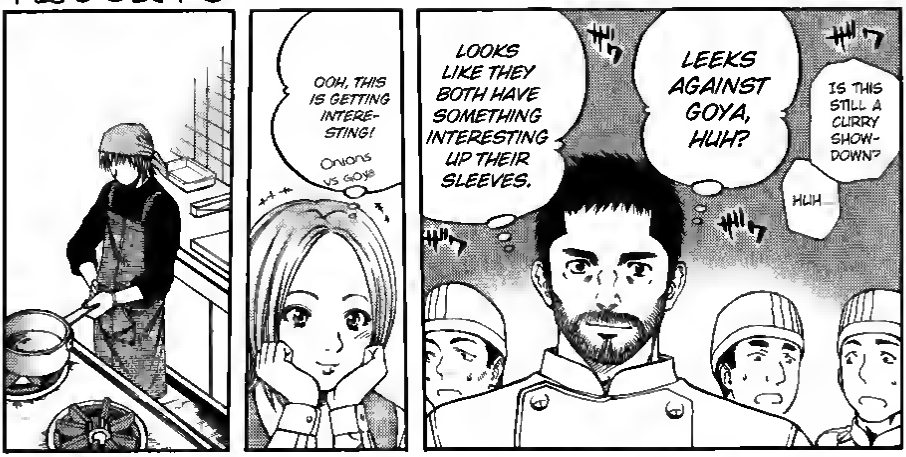
THIS TASK IS OF IMMENSE DIFFICULTY...
IT DOESN'T IMPROVE THE CURRY IN ANY WAY.
THE BEER YOU DRINK WHEN EATING CURRY IS REALLY JUST TO QUENCH THIRST.

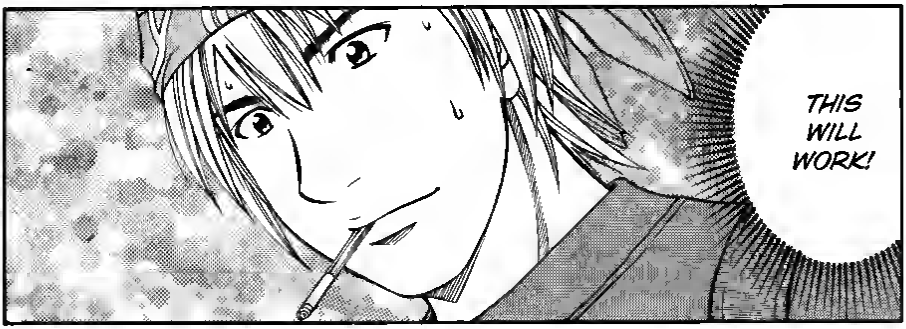

CURRY JUST ISN'T ONE OF THOSE FOODS THAT'S STRONGLY ASSOCIATED WITH ALCOHOL...
VERY FEW PEOPLE BOTHERED TRYING TO DEVELOP NEW CURRIES THAT PAIRED WELL WITH EITHER A EUROPEAN WINE OR EVEN A JAPANESE SAKE.
THIS IS MOST LIKELY DUE TO RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL PROHIBITIONS OF ALCOHOL IN CURRY'S BIRTHPLACE, INDIA.

THIS IS BECAUSE THERE IS PRACTICALLY NO ALCOHOL THAT CAN STAND UP TO ALL THE SPICES AND AROMAS OF CURRY.
THERE'S ALSO THE FACT THAT...

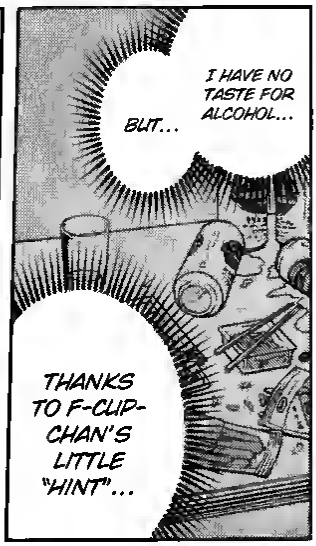
KOUENJI.
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO OVERCOME THIS OBSTACLE?!
KAITANI.
IN SHORT...
WOOSH...
CURRY JUST ISN'T MEANT TO BE COOKED IN UNISON WITH ALCOHOLIC DRINKS!
!?
A GREEN ONION?!
NO, THAT'S ..

A LEEK?!
AAH!?
THAT GUY'S USING ...
IT'S A TYPE OF ONION GROWN EVERYWHERE IN EUROPE AND AMERICA AND EVEN IN ANCIENT EGYPT! IT'S A VERY HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT PLANT.
JUST LOOKING AT IT YOU'D THINK IT WAS AN ONION GROWN IN SHIMONITA, BUT IT'S ACTUALLY VERY SWEET AND HAS A DIFFERENT TEXTURE ALL TOGETHER.
YES, A LEEK.
LEEK?
TS NOTE: GOYA MEANS BITTER MELON
GOYA?!


OOH, THIS IS GETTING INTERE-STING!
Onions vs Goya
LOOKS LIKE THEY BOTH HAVE SOMETHING INTERESTING UP THEIR SLEEVES.
LEEKS AGAINST GOYA, HUH?
IS THIS STILL A CURRY SHOW-DOWN?
HUH...


THIS WILL WORK!

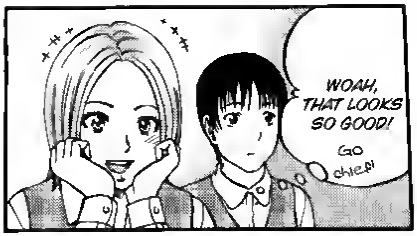
ALL I NEED IS THIS.
THIS WILL DEFINITELY WORK!


I HAVE NO TASTE FOR ALCOHOL...
BUT...
THANKS TO F-CUP-CHAN'S LITTLE "HINT"...

!?

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU MAKING...
KUINIGE?!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
WHAT THE HELL DID THAT BRAT JUST PUT IN?!

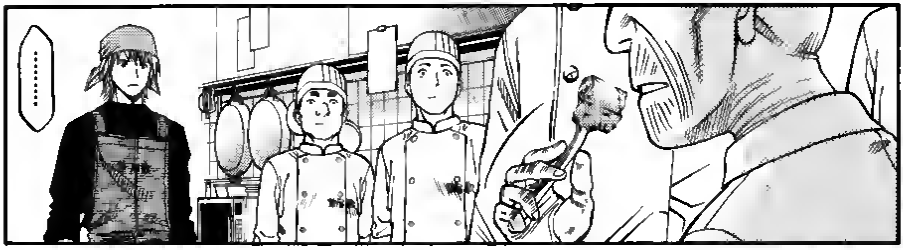
LET'S START WITH THE MORE DECENT DISH...
ALRIGHT, TIME FOR THE TASTE TEST.
KAITANI! YOU'RE UP FIRST!
INDEED.. THIS CURRY IS MADE WITH LEEKS AND CHICKEN
"SPRING CHICKEN AND ROBUCHON CURRY".
GLUG
トットットッ
GLUG
GLUG
PLEASE ENJOY IT WITH A GLASS OF MOET AND CHANDON.
IMPERIAL
& CHANDO
華屋敷
おぉ
Woooah


WOAH, THAT LOOKS SO GOOD!
GO chie-!

ｵｲﾗ...

HMM..

AS EXPECTED FROM A GUY WITH CLASSICAL FRENCH TRAINING LIKE KAITANI.
SO IN THE END, HE MADE A CURRY WITH AN ONION BASED SAUCE WITH LEEKS...

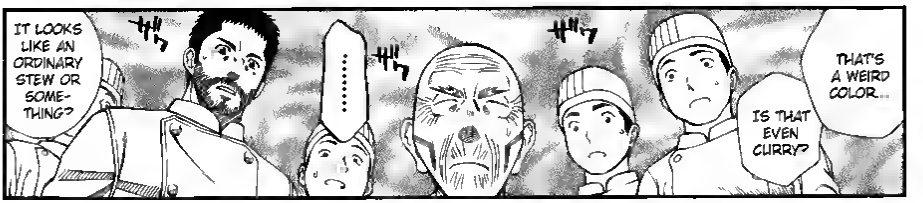

.....

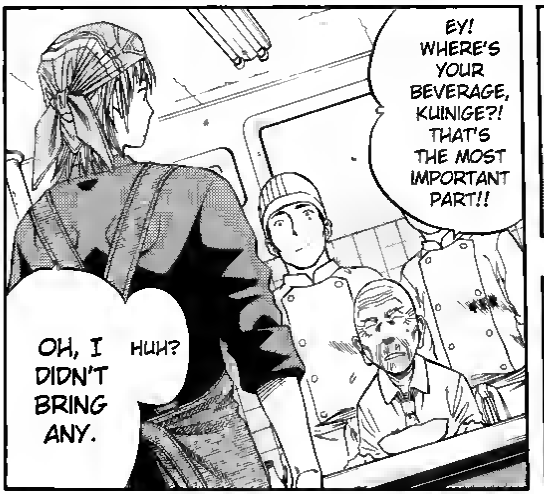
SIP

NOM NOM NOM
MM..

MM!!
DELICIOUS!
華屋敷
YOUR CHOICE OF CHAMPAGNE IS VERY REFRESHING AND STANDS UP TO THE FLAVORS IN THE CURRY.
NOT ONLY IS THE CHICKEN TASTY AND THE LEEKS NICE AND SWEET,
YOU'VE USED PLENTY OF FRUITS AND COCONUT MILK TOO. YOUR CHOICE OF SPICES FIT PERFECTLY TOO!
A GENUINE PAIRING OF CURRY AND CHAMPAGNE!!
THE CURRY AMPLIFIES THE CHAMPAGNE'S REFRESHINGNESS WHILE THE CHAMPAGNE EMPHASIZES THE SPICES IN THE CURRY.
YOU'RE AMAZING!
ALRIGHT, CHIEF!!
Hmph
I KNOW.
華屋敷

COMING!
YOUR TURN, KUINIGE!
NEXT.
IF YOU'RE GONNA DROP, NOW IS THE TIME TO DO SO.
HMPH.
WHY DO THEY KEEP CALLING HIM KUINIGE?
HM?!
HERE YOU GO.
ENJOY.

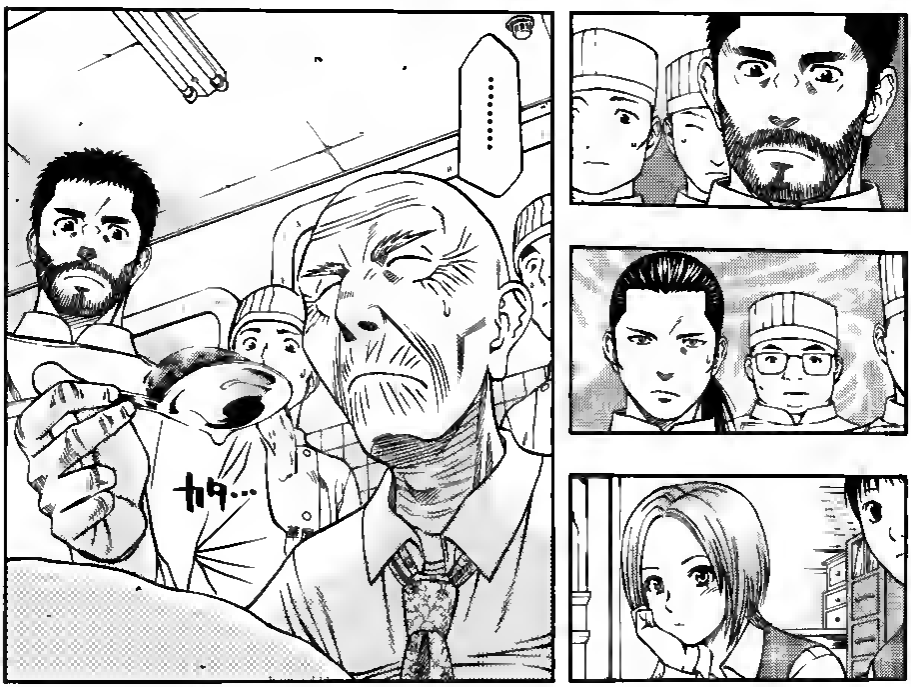

IT LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY STEW OR SOME-THING?
.....
IS THAT EVEN CURRY?
THAT'S A WEIRD COLOR...


EY! WHERE'S YOUR BEVERAGE, KUINIGE?! THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT PART!!
HUH?
OH, I DIDN'T BRING ANY.

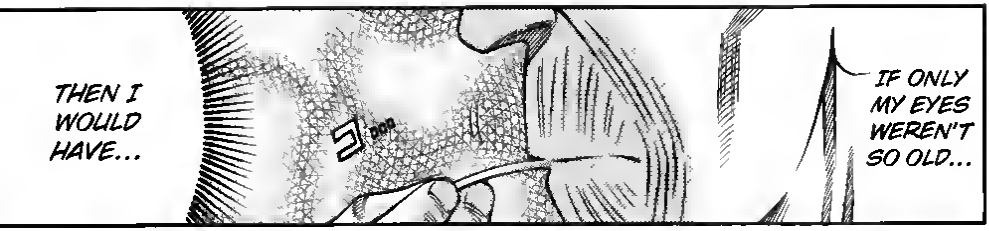
HMMMM
HUH... SOMETHING LIKE THAT CAN BE CALLED CURRY TOO?

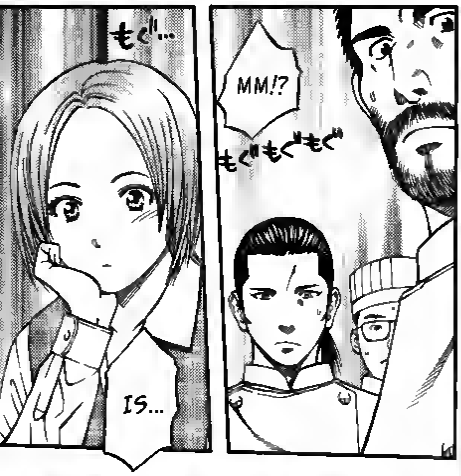
HUH?
HM?

I SAW THAT YOU'RE ALWAYS DRINKING THAT PARTICULAR BRAND.
SO I JUST THOUGHT, WHY NOT?
JUST EAT IT WITH THAT.
……


……
ｶﾘ…

THAT'S WHAT I'M MOST INTERESTED TO FIND OUT.
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!
HE DEFINITELY PUT SOMETHING INTO THE POT EARLIER...

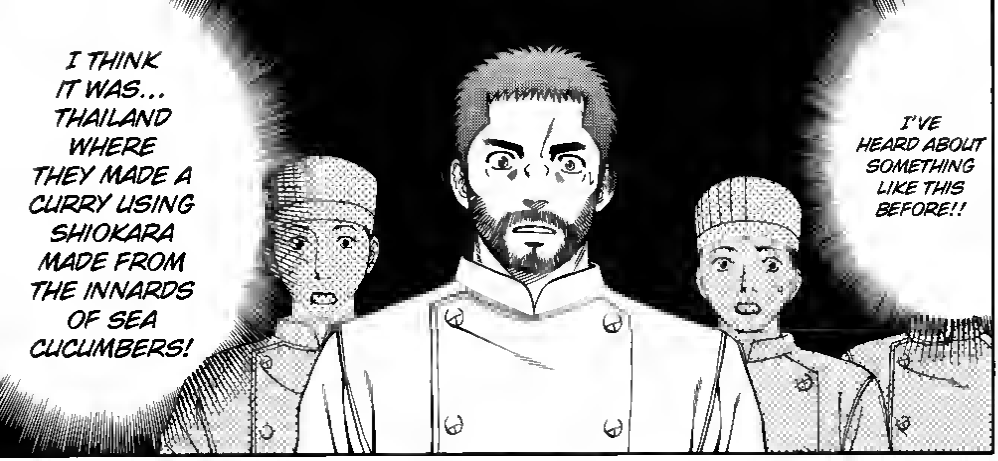

THEN I WOULD HAVE...
DON
IF ONLY MY EYES WEREN'T SO OLD...


もぐ...
IS...
MM!?
もぐもぐもぐ

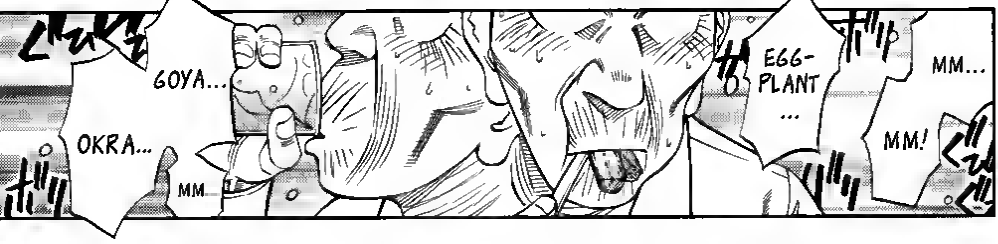
IS THIS ...?!

MUNCH

SALTED
SALTED FISH ENTRAILS?!
THERE'S NO MIST-AKE!!
THIS IS SHIO-KARA!
TS NOTE. SHIOKARA MEANS SALTED FISH ENTRAILS


I THINK IT WAS... THAILAND WHERE THEY MADE A CURRY USING SHIOKARA MADE FROM THE INNARDS OF SEA CUCUMBERS!
I'VE HEARD ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS BEFORE!!

IF HE USED IT CORRECTLY, THE CURRY WOULD MOST DEFINITELY WORK WELL WITH SAKE!
SHIOKARA IS ALL BUT SYNONYMOUS WITH APPETIZER WHEN IT COMES TO SAKE!

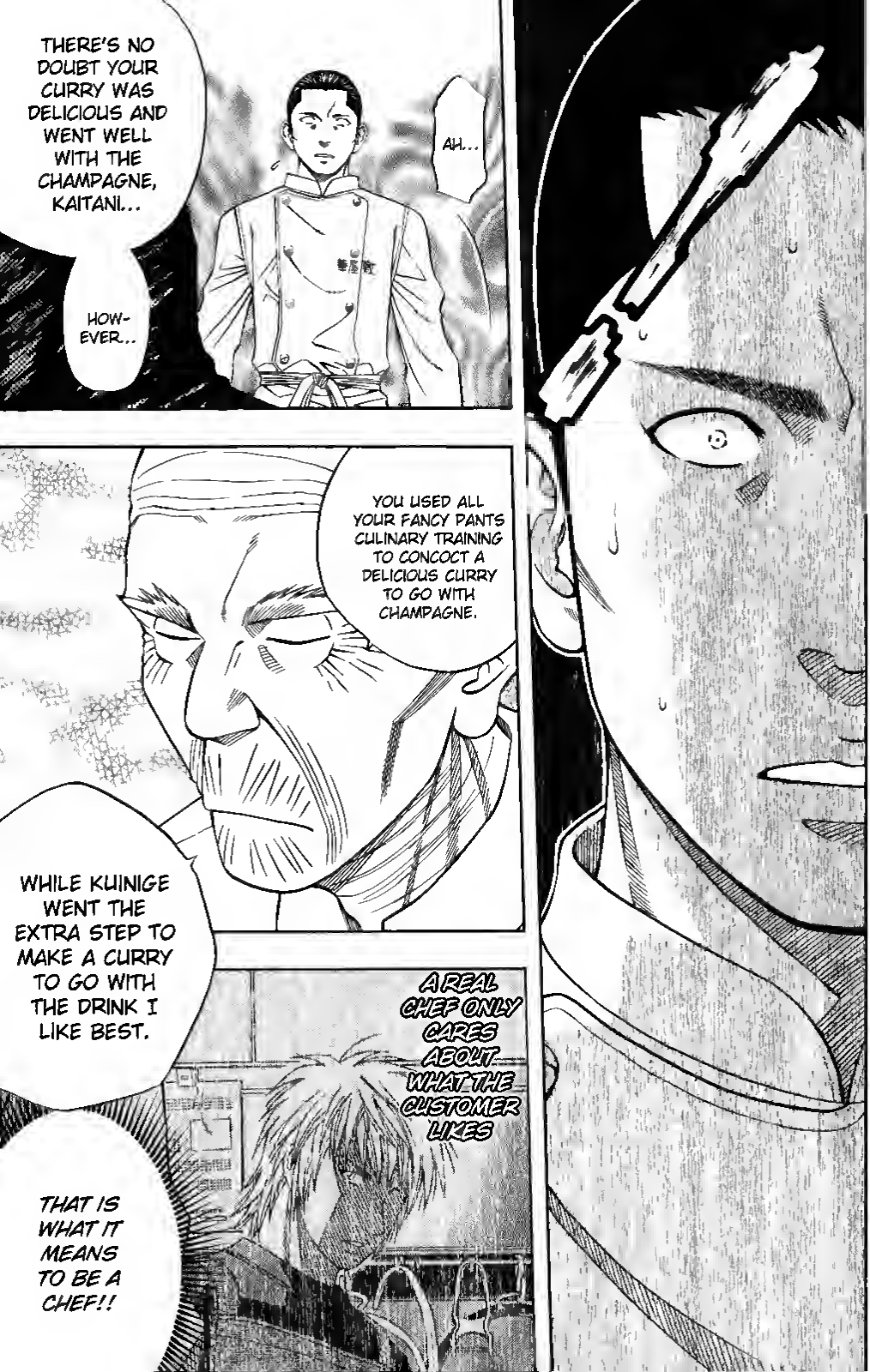

GOYA...
OKRA...
MM
EGG-PLANT ...
MM...
MM!

HUH?
IT'S LIKE I'M TASTING THIS SAKE FOR THE FIRST TIME!
MMMM!! ALL THE INGREDIENTS HAVE ABSORBED THE SHIOKARA FLAVOR! EVERY BITE TASTES BETTER THAN THE LAST!
AND THEN THE RICHNESS OF ALL THE SPICES ENHANCES THE SAKE!
OH NOO!!

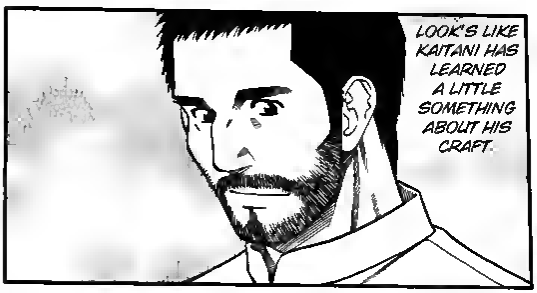
SOME-BODY!!
GET ME ANOTHER BOTTLE OF THIS!!
SFX: OOOH!
YES SIR, COMING RIGHT UP!
HURRY IT UP!
HOLY MOLY!
MANAGER! WHAT IS YOUR VERDICT?
WHO IS THE VICTOR?
HUH?
CAN'T YOU TELL?
IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS JUST BY LOOKING AT MY REACTION TO THIS DISH.
GRR

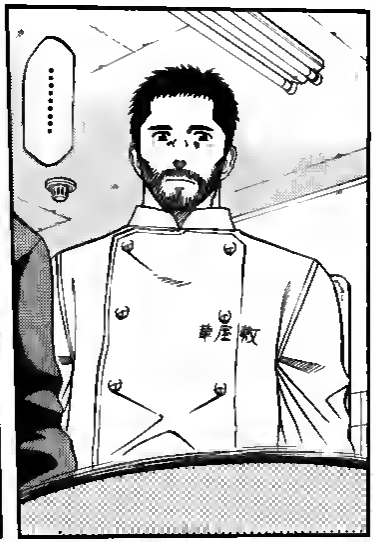
KUINIGE WINS!!!
WHA...
HOW DID HE WIN?! I DO NOT UNDER-STAND!
YOU SAID MY DISH WAS A PERFECT GENUINE PAIR OF CURRY AND CHAMPAGNE!
SO WHY DID HE WIN?!
BECAUSE...
YOU DIDN'T LISTEN WELL ENOUGH.

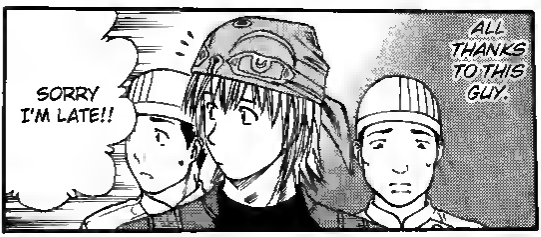
WHY DID YOU IMMEDIATELY CHOOSE TO USE CHAMPAGNE?
EH?
WHEN YOU HEARD THAT THE THEME WAS CURRY WITH ALCOHOL...
華屋数
EH? WELL BECAUSE...
WHY DID YOU CHOOSE JAPANESE SAKE?
HOW BOUT YOU, KUINIGE?
THAT'S BECAUSE.. YOU DIDN'T SPECIFY ANY PARTI-CULAR TYPE OF ALCOHOL SO... I THOUGHT WE COULD USE ANYTHING!
YOU LIKE JAPANESE SAKE...
RIGHT, MANAGER?
華屋数

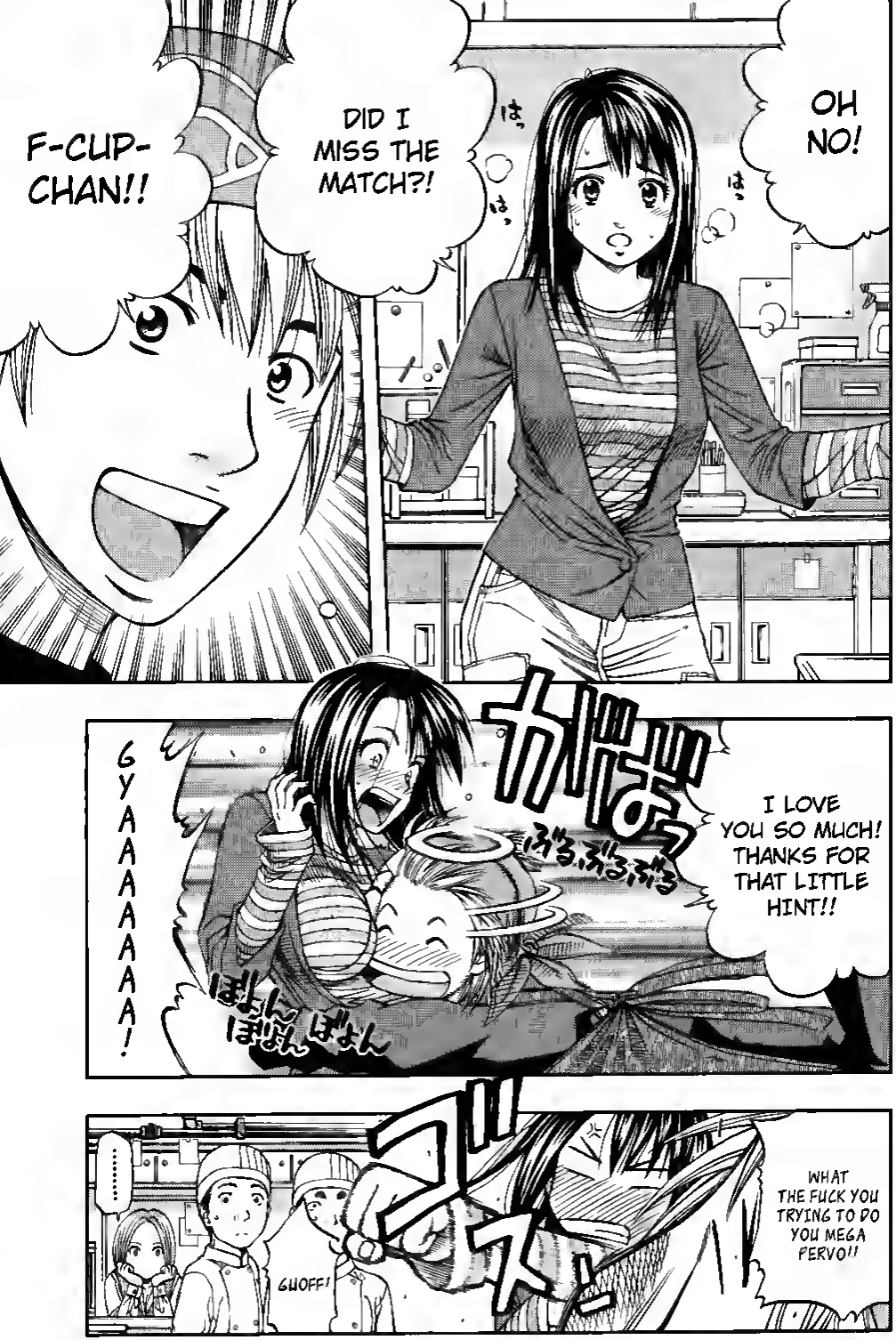

THERE'S NO DOUBT YOUR CURRY WAS DELICIOUS AND WENT WELL WITH THE CHAMPAGNE, KAITANI...
HOW-EVER...
AH...
YOU USED ALL YOUR FANCY PANTS CULINARY TRAINING TO CONCOCT A DELICIOUS CURRY TO GO WITH CHAMPAGNE.
WHILE KUINIGE WENT THE EXTRA STEP TO MAKE A CURRY TO GO WITH THE DRINK I LIKE BEST.
A REAL CHEF ONLY CARES ABOUT WHAT THE CUSTOMER LIKES
THAT IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHEF!!

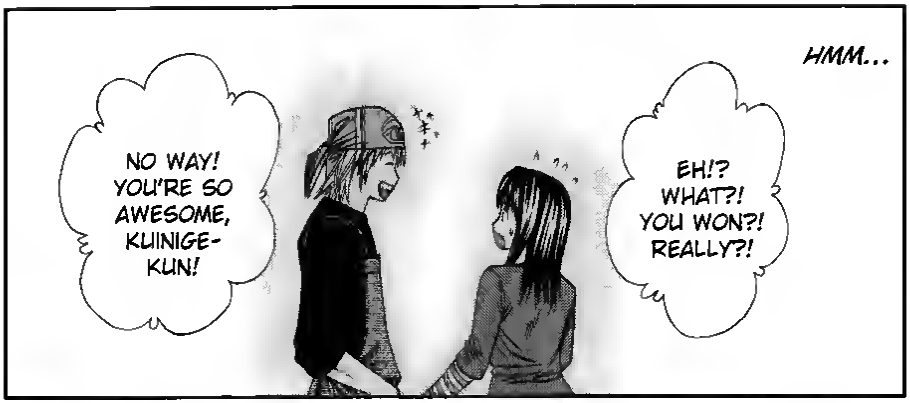
THIS IS THE OVERWHELMING DIFFERENCE...
華屋敷
BETWEEN YOUR AND KUINIGE'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS FOOD.


LOOK'S LIKE KAITANI HAS LEARNED A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT HIS CRAFT.


.....
華屋敷

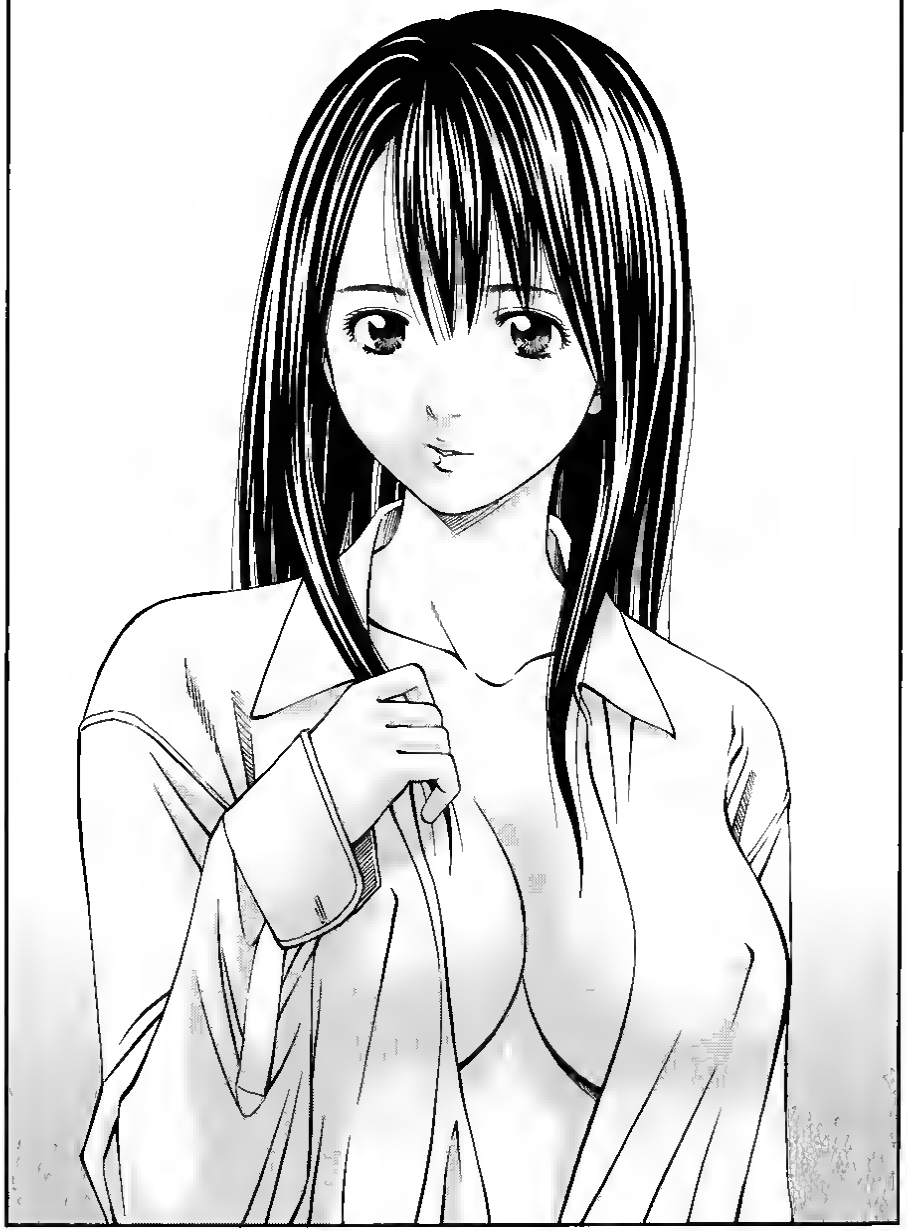

ALL THANKS TO THIS GUY.
SORRY I'M LATE!!


F-CUP-CHAN!!
DID I MISS THE MATCH?!
OH NO!
はっ
はっ
はっ
GYAAAAAAAA!
ぶるぶるぶる
ぼよんぼよんぼよん
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH! THANKS FOR THAT LITTLE HINT!!
……
GHOFF!
WHAT THE FUCK YOU TRYING TO DO YOU MEGA PERVO!!


HMM...
NO WAY! YOU'RE SO AWESOME, KUINIGE-KUN!
EH!? WHAT?! YOU WON?! REALLY?!

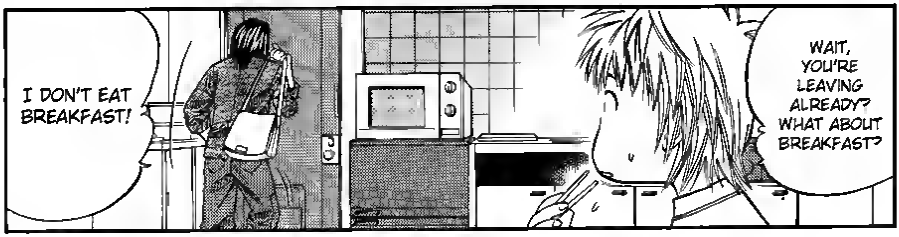
WEL,L WELL, WELL... HELLO, MR. MYSTERIOUS.
LICK

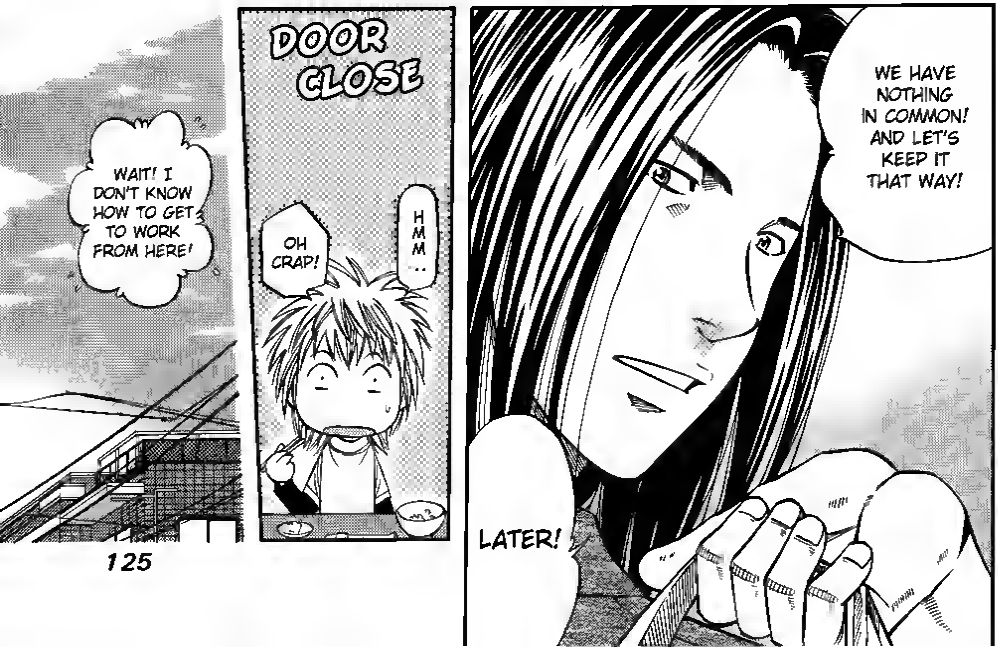
CHAPTER 101: THE 200TH MAN AND THE FALLEN CURRY



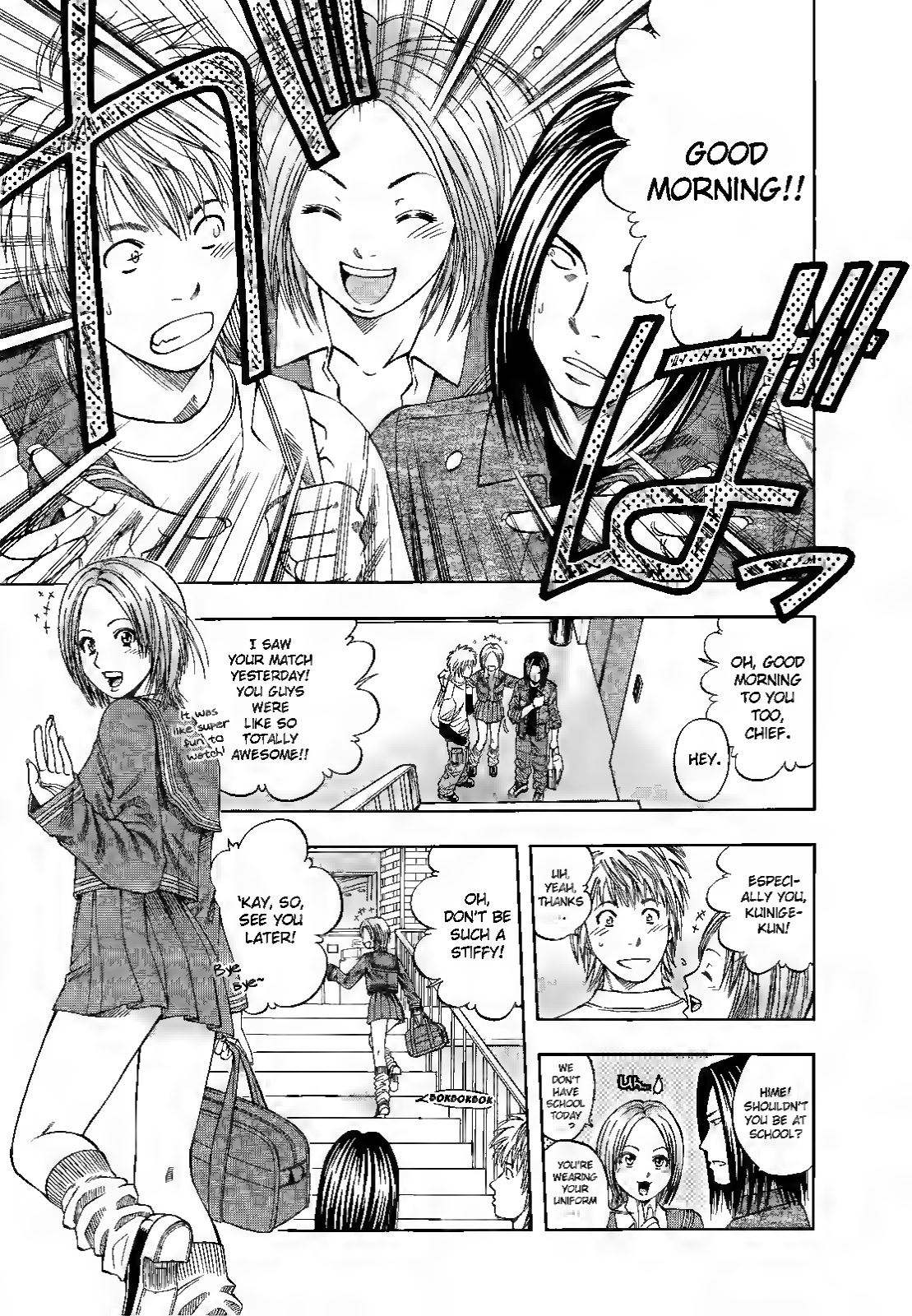
GOOOD MORNING!!
I MADE BREAK-FAST!
GACHA
UGH.
THIS GUY...
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR STUPID FACE SO EARLY IN THE MORNING! IT PISSES ME OFF AND RUINS THE REST OF MY DAY!!
DUMBASS
AWW, C'MON DUDE! DON'T BE LIKE THAT! I JUST MADE BREAKFAST FOR YOU.
7:05 AM KAYA EMPLOYEE HOUSING

WHY THE HELL DID I HAVE TO SHARE A PLACE WITH YOU ANYWAY?!
THERE WAS NO OTHER CHOICE. ALL THE OTHER ROOMS WERE FULL...
YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE LIVING ALONE, CHONMAGE-KUN.
WHO THE HELL YOU CALLIN' CHON-MAGE!?
HMPH!
STUPID SON OF A...
GRR...
WELL, IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU LOSING TO ME, CHONMAGE-KUN.


WAIT, YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY? WHAT ABOUT BREAKFAST?
I DON'T EAT BREAKFAST!

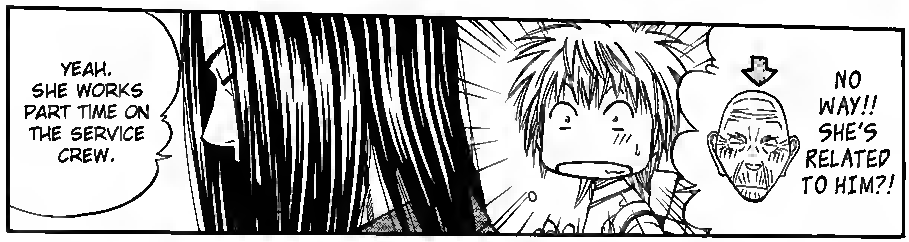

WE HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON! AND LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY!
LATER!
DOOR CLOSE
HMM..
OH CRAP!
WAIT! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET TO WORK FROM HERE!

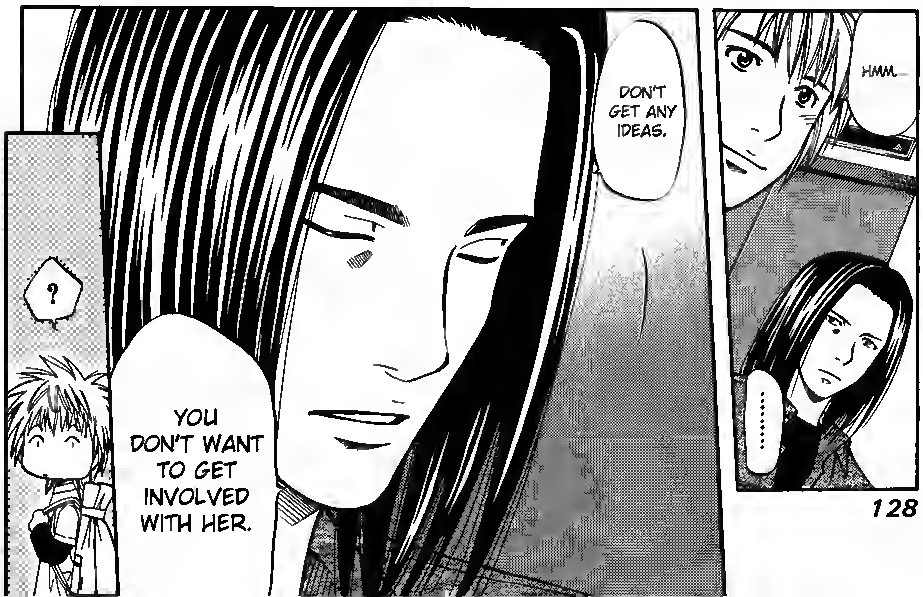
LEAVE ME ALONE! STOP FOLLOWING ME!
OH, COME ON DUDE! WE'RE ROOMIES NOW! ALSO I DON'T KNOW THE WAY TO KAYA..
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? DIDN'T NANASE DRAW YOU A MAP LAST NIGHT?
SHE DID, BUT IT'S JUST ONE LONG LINE WITH NO LAND-MARKS OR ANYTHING..
BY THE WAY, CHONMAGE-KUN, DO YOU ALWAYS GO TO WORK THIS EARLY?
SHADDUP! STOP CALLING ME CHONMAGE!
DOES BEING THE CHIEF CHEF REQUIRE THAT MUCH WORK?
QUALITY CONTROL, KEEPING INVENTORY, DELEGATING WORK SHIFTS...
BUYING GRO-CERIES, COOP-ERATION WITH THE SERVICE CREW, COMING UP WITH NEW DISHES...
MANAGING EVERYONE ...
OKAY! SORRY I ASKED... I GOT TIRED JUST HEARING THEM ALL...
THAT SOUNDS JUST TERRIBLE.
DIDN'T KNOW BEING A CHEF HAD SO MANY THINGS TO DO!
OOH! KUINIGE-KUN!


GOOD MORNING!!
HEY.
OH, GOOD MORNING TO YOU TOO, CHIEF.
I SAW YOUR MATCH YESTERDAY! YOU GUYS WERE LIKE SO TOTALLY AWESOME!!
It was like super fun to watch!
OH, DON'T BE SUCH A STIFFY!
'KAY, SO, SEE YOU LATER!
BYE BYE~
BORBOKBOK
UH, YEAH, THANKS.
ESPECIALLY YOU, KUNIGE-KUN!
HIME! SHOULDN'T YOU BE AT SCHOOL?
UH...
WE DON'T HAVE SCHOOL TODAY?
YOU'RE WEARING YOUR UNIFORM

OOOH

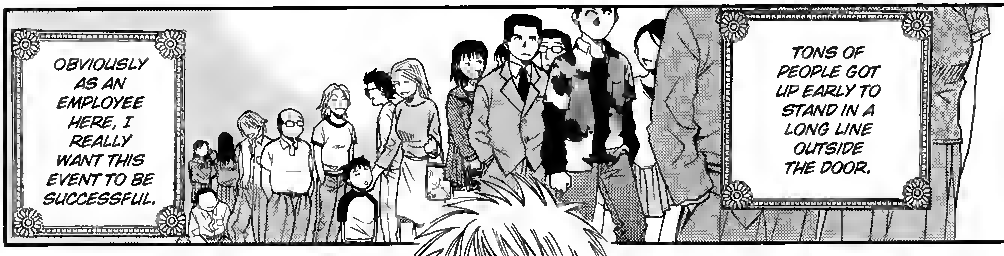
WHO WAS THAT?
HEART POUNDING
HIMENO KOYUKI THE MANAGER'S GRAND-DAUGHTER


NO WAY!! SHE'S RELATED TO HIM?!
YEAH. SHE WORKS PART TIME ON THE SERVICE CREW.

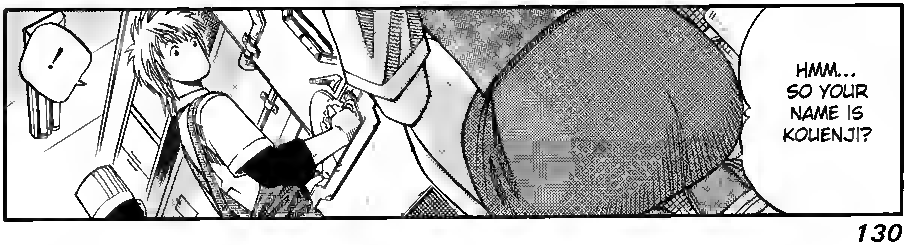

HMM...
DON'T GET ANY IDEAS.
?
YOU DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH HER.

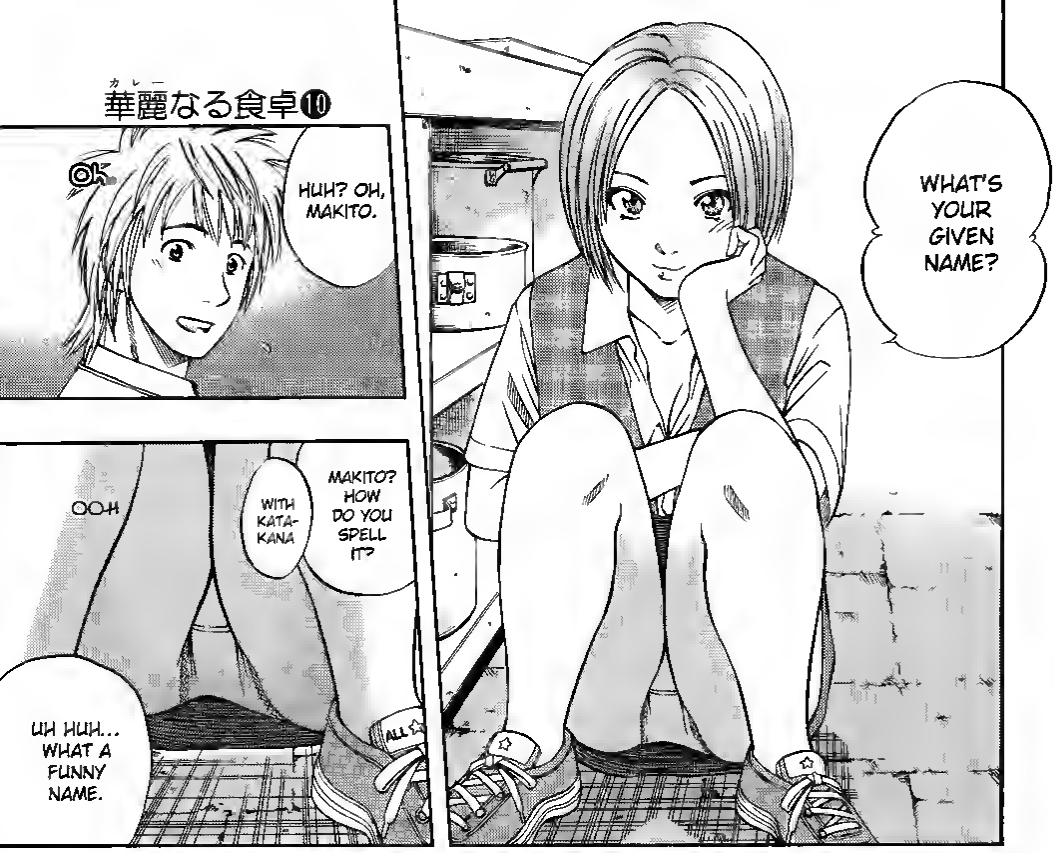
華屋敷
SO THEN...
I'VE BEEN OFFICIALLY HIRED TO WORK HERE AT THE WESTERN STYLE RESTAURANT, KAYA.
WHAT?! WHY?!
OH YEAH SHE CALLED AND SAID SHE WAS TAKING THE DAY OFF OR SOMETHING
WHERE THE FUCK IS NANASE ?!?!
NAN-ASE!!
SHE ACTUALLY SOUNDED LIKE SHE WAS GOING TO DIE.
My stomache hurts...
APPARENTLY, SHE ATE SOME BAD OYSTERS LAST NIGHT.
May, June, July, August
Ooh, you're right
NEVER, EVER EAT OYSTERS IN MONTHS WITH THE LETTER "R" IN THEM!!
THAT STUPID KID! EVERYONE KNOWS NOT TO EAT OYSTERS THIS TIME OF YEAR!!
THE HEAD CHEF IS UNUSUALLY WORKED UP TODAY...

華屋敷特製
復活カツカレーフェア
毎日先着200名様限り
あのカツカレーが帰って来た!!
WE WILL ONLY MAKE 200 ORDERS A DAY TO CELEBRATE THE REVIVAL OF KAYA'S SPECIAL CURRY.
TODAY'S THE START OF OUR NEW BEEF KATSU CURRY SPECIAL AFTER ALL...
I GUESS I CAN'T BLAME HIM...

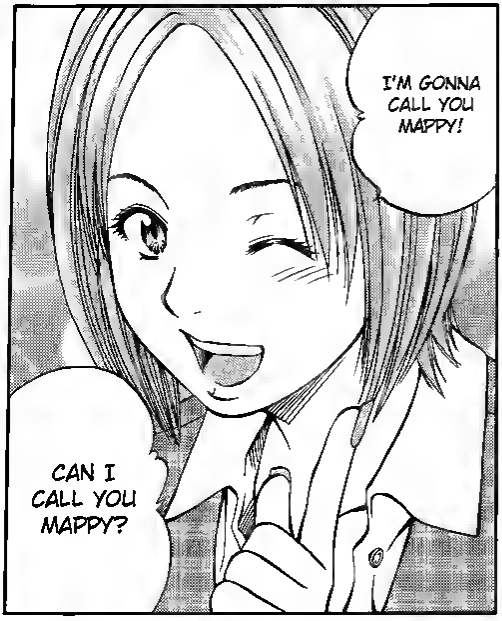

OBVIOUSLY AS AN EMPLOYEE HERE, I REALLY WANT THIS EVENT TO BE SUCCESSFUL.
TONS OF PEOPLE GOT UP EARLY TO STAND IN A LONG LINE OUTSIDE THE DOOR.

FOUR MORE KATSU CURRIES, PLEASE!
'KAY!
'KAY!
THREE KATSU CURRIES COMING OUT!
TWO CURRIES FOR TABLE 5!

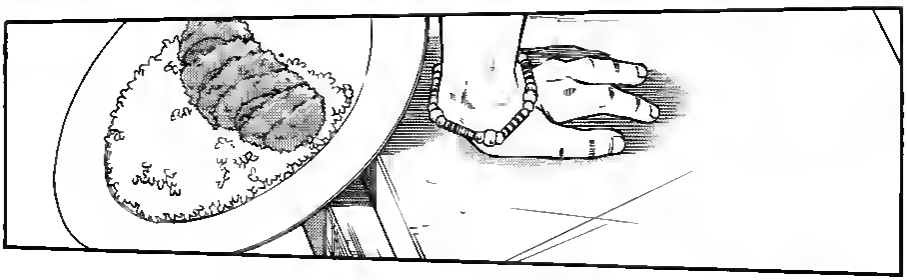

!
HMM... SO YOUR NAME IS KOUENJI?

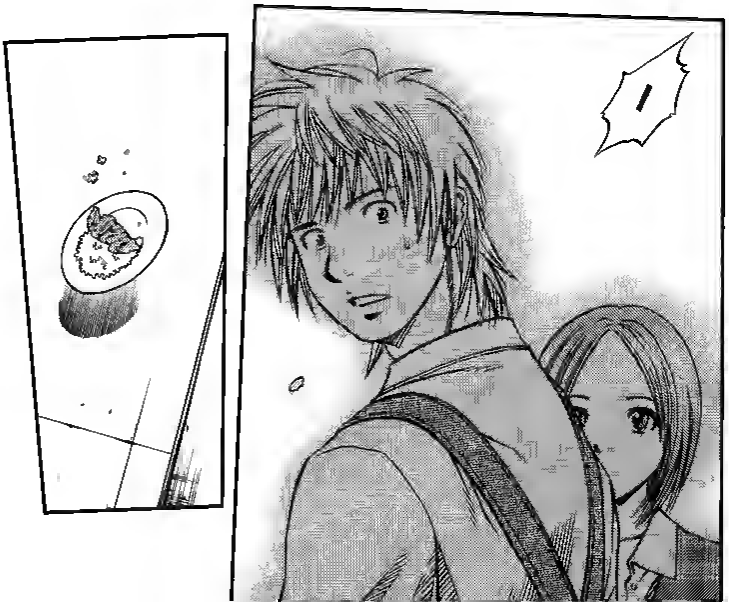


MAPPY (C) NAMCO LIMITED

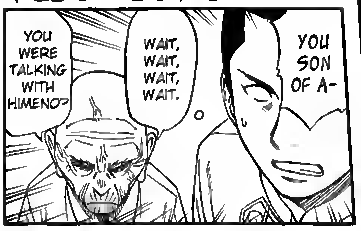


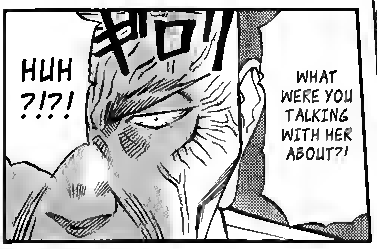
YOU'RE SO TALL! HOW TALL ARE YOU?
UH, LIKE 180 CM, I GUESS?
REALLY? YOU LOOK TALLER THAN 180.
DOINK
BOOO-BIEEES...
AND YOUR FINGERS ARE SO THICK!
OH, WOW! YOUR HANDS ARE SO BIG!
WAIT, WHAT?
WOW ...
MMM ...
ONE TOUCH FROM THESE HANDS...
COULD GET ME OFF NONSTOP ...
LICK



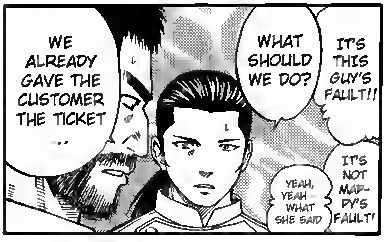


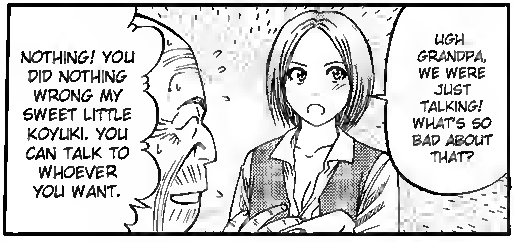
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S FINALLY HERE!
CHIEF! A PACKAGE CAME FOR YOU!
OH!
CHIEF! BAD NEWS!
OUR NEW DISH.
?
I'M SOR-RY
WE'RE SHORT ONE KATSU?!


YOU WERE TALKING WITH HIMENO?
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT, WAIT.
YOU SON OF A-


HUH ?!?!
ギロ!!
WHAT WERE YOU TALKING WITH HER ABOUT?!

YOU FUCKING IDIOT!! WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU THINKING?!
I'M SORRY
HE WAS TALKING WITH HIMENO AND BUMPED THE PLATE OFF THE COUNTER WHEN HE WASN'T LOOKING!

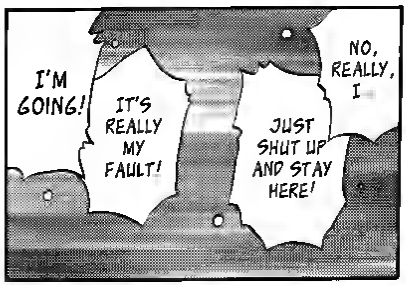

WE ALREADY GAVE THE CUSTOMER THE TICKET ..
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
IT'S THIS GUY'S FAULT!!
YEAH, YEAH WHAT SHE SAID
IT'S NOT MAP-PY'S FAULT!

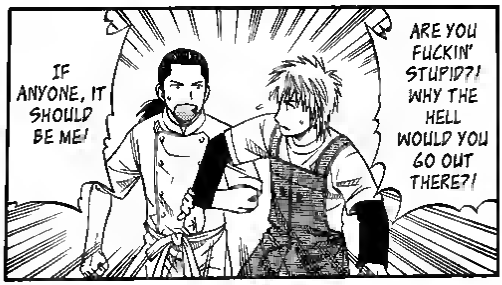

NOTHING! YOU DID NOTHING WRONG MY SWEET LITTLE KOYUKI. YOU CAN TALK TO WHOEVER YOU WANT.
UGH GRANDPA, WE WERE JUST TALKING! WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT THAT?

NO, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT. WE BARELY HAD ENOUGH TIME TO GET THIS ALL SET UP TO BEGIN WITH.
AND WE WERE ONLY ABLE TO ORDER JUST ENOUGH FOR 200 SERVINGS... I TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS.

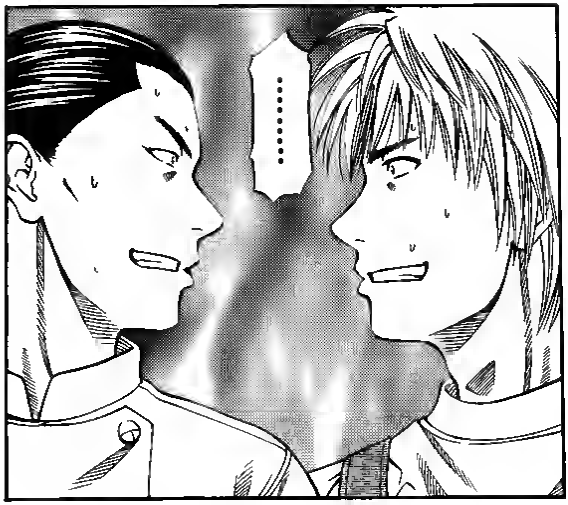
DO YOU THINK WE CAN USE A REGULAR STEAK?
WE'VE GOT THE BEEF FOR TOMORROW, RIGHT?
NO, WE NEED THE INNER THIGH MEAT OF YOUNG KOBE COWS...

IT'S MY FAULT!
I'LL GO APOLOGIZE TO THE CUSTOMER.


I'M GOING!
IT'S REALLY MY FAULT!
NO, REALLY, I
JUST SHUT UP AND STAY HERE!


IF ANYONE, IT SHOULD BE ME!
ARE YOU FUCKIN' STUPID?! WHY THE HELL WOULD YOU GO OUT THERE?!

.....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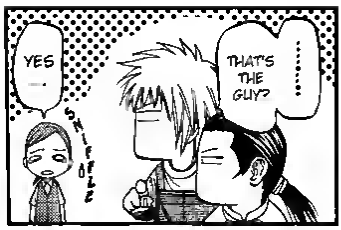
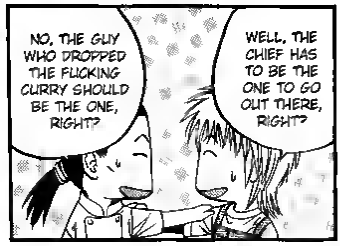
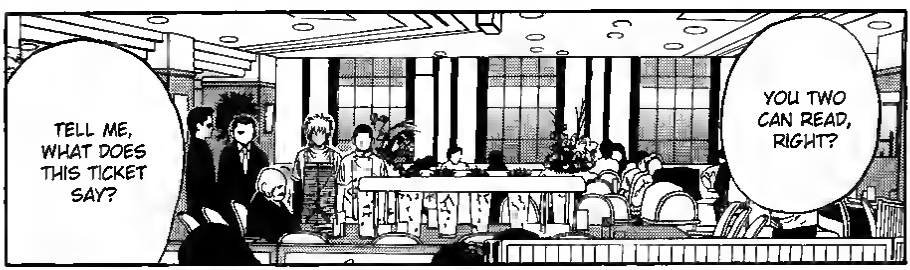
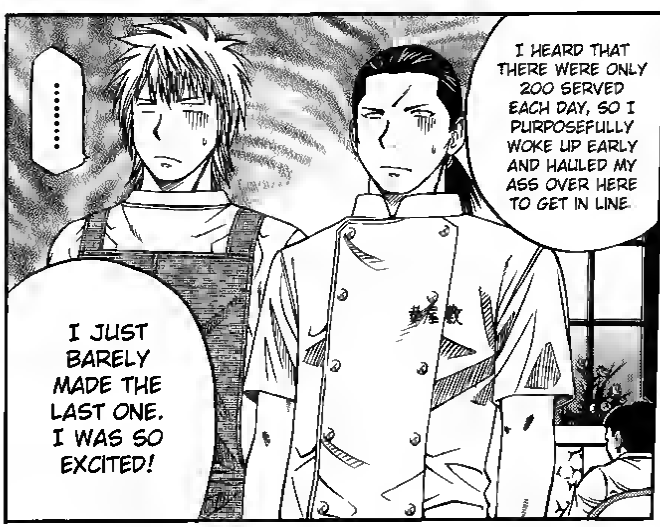

YES
THAT'S THE GUY?
……

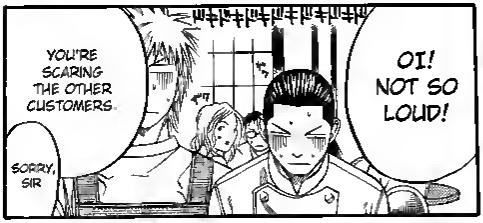

NO, THE GUY WHO DROPPED THE FUCKING CURRY SHOULD BE THE ONE, RIGHT?
WELL, THE CHIEF HAS TO BE THE ONE TO GO OUT THERE, RIGHT?


TELL ME, WHAT DOES THIS TICKET SAY?
YOU TWO CAN READ, RIGHT?


……
I HEARD THAT THERE WERE ONLY 200 SERVED EACH DAY, SO I PURPOSEFULLY WOKE UP EARLY AND HAULED MY ASS OVER HERE TO GET IN LINE.
I JUST BARELY MADE THE LAST ONE. I WAS SO EXCITED!

TWO…
HUNDRED …
IT SAYS TWO HUNDRED, RIGHT? I'M NOT HALLUCINATING OR ANYTHING, RIGHT?

HEEEK!
WE DO NOT CARE FOR YOUR EXCUSES, DUMBASS!!
M-MY HUMBLEST APOLOGIES, SIR. I MADE A MISTAKE AND-

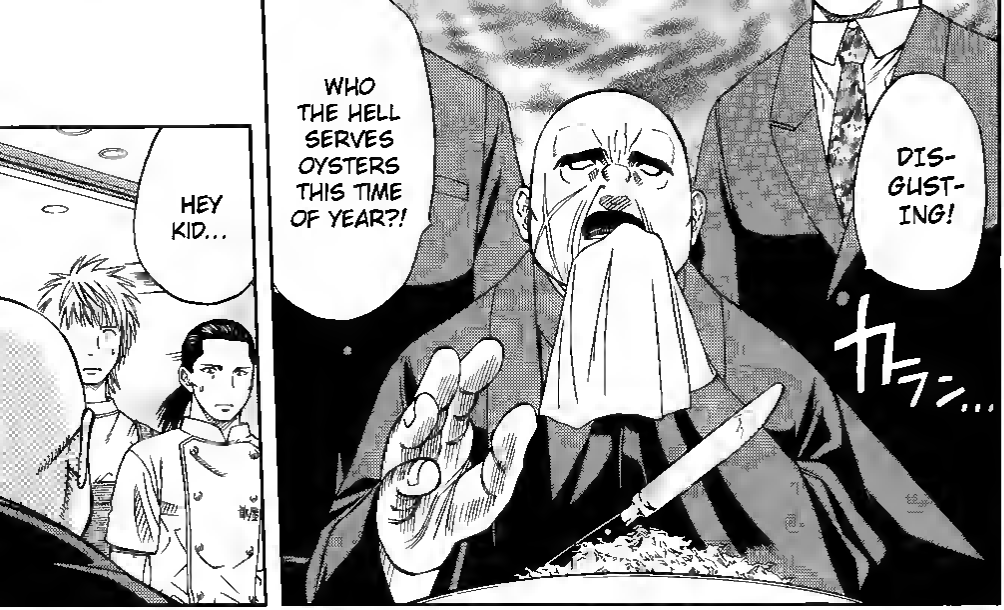

YOU'RE SCARING THE OTHER CUSTOMERS.
SORRY, SIR
OI! NOT SO LOUD!

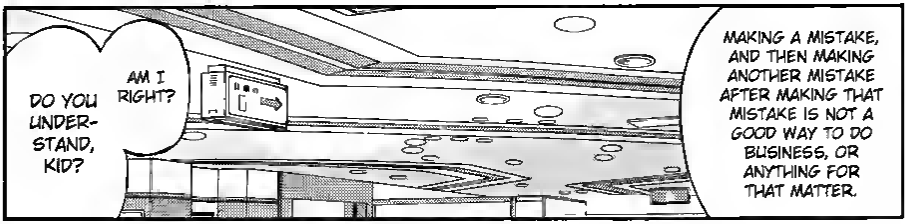
HMM
.....

NOM NOM

UUHG..

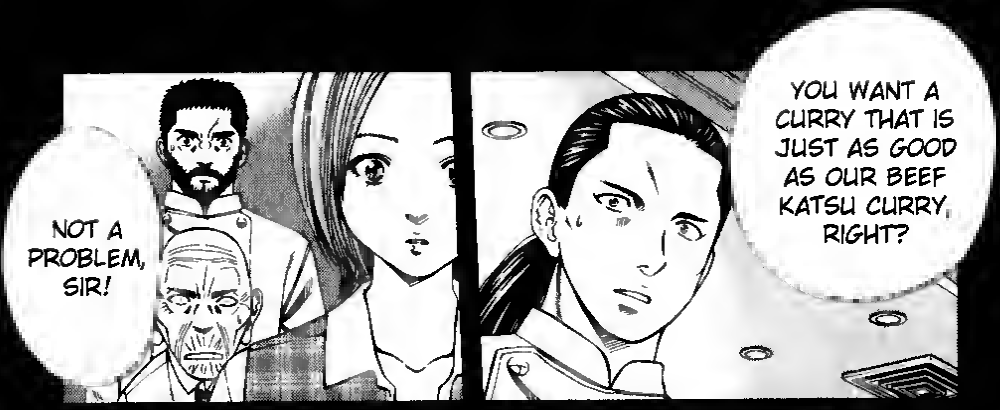
BUT NOW IT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S ONLY 199 SERVINGS TODAY.
SO...
IT SEEMS WE HAVE A LITTLE PROBLEM HERE, RIGHT?!


HEY KID...
WHO THE HELL SERVES OYSTERS THIS TIME OF YEAR?!
DIS-GUST-ING!
カラン...

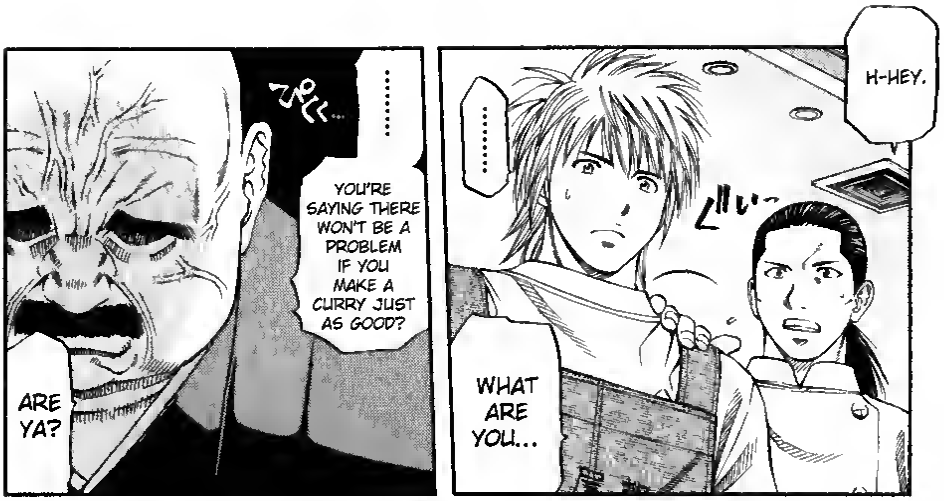

DO YOU UNDER-STAND, KID?
AM I RIGHT?
MAKING A MISTAKE, AND THEN MAKING ANOTHER MISTAKE AFTER MAKING THAT MISTAKE IS NOT A GOOD WAY TO DO BUSINESS, OR ANYTHING FOR THAT MATTER.

SIR, I DON'T THINK WE CAN...
NOT A PROBLEM, SIR!
AND IT HAS TO BE A CURRY THAT IS AS GOOD AS THE ONE YOU PROMISED ME!!
I CAME HERE TO EAT SOME CURRY, AND CURRY'S WHAT I'M GETTING!
THEN PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE SOME-THING ELSE FROM OUR AWARD WINNING MENU?
HELL NO!

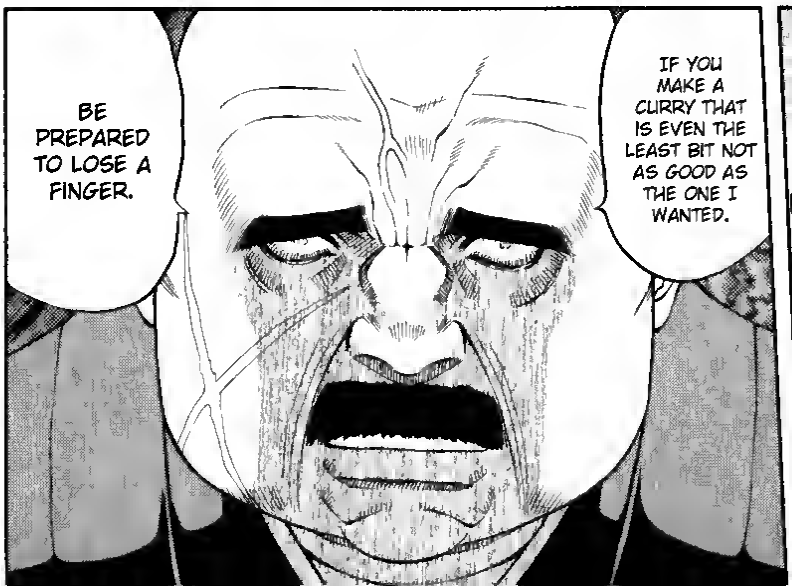
YOU WANT A CURRY THAT IS JUST AS GOOD AS OUR BEEF KATSU CURRY, RIGHT?
I'LL MAKE ONE FOR YOU RIGHT NOW!!



CHAPTER 102: MAKITO'S SUBSTITUTE DISH AND THE OYSTER CURRY

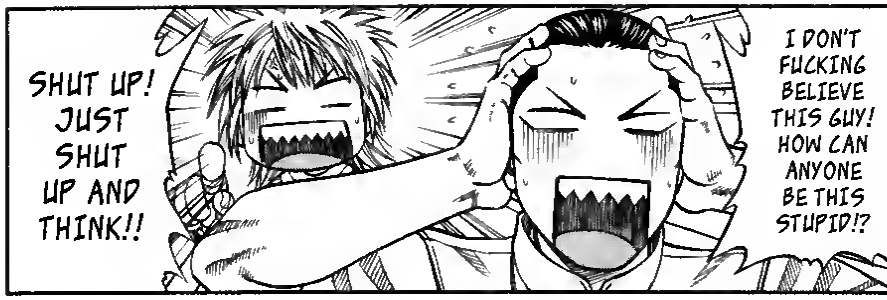

H-HEY.
WHAT ARE YOU...
YOU'RE SAYING THERE WON'T BE A PROBLEM IF YOU MAKE A CURRY JUST AS GOOD?
ARE YA?

IF YA DON'T DELIVER, IMMA CUT OFF YA FINGERS!!!
YA FEEL ME BRO!?

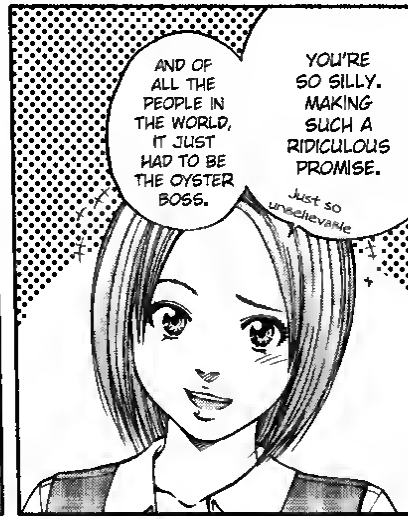

IF YOU MAKE A CURRY THAT IS EVEN THE LEAST BIT NOT AS GOOD AS THE ONE I WANTED.
BE PREPARED TO LOSE A FINGER.

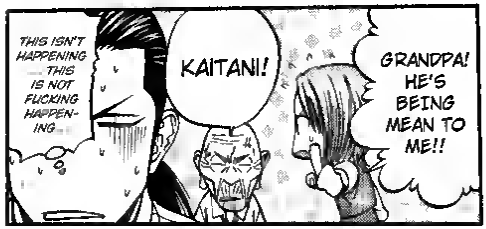
THAT SOUNDS REASONABLE. I'LL LET YOU MAKE ANOTHER ONE.
HOW-EVER.

PERHAPS YOU WANT TO SHARE SOME OF THE BLAME?
Like cosigning on a lease
.....
THIS GUY SAID HE'D MAKE ME SOMETHING AS GOOD AS WHAT I WANTED.
華屋敷
YE-YES SIR.
WHA!
HUH?
WHY THE HELL ARE YOU STILL HERE, BOY?
PLEASE HOLD ON, SIR! THIS GUY JUST STARTED WORKING HERE AND-
WHAT THE HELL!!
AT LEAST TELL ME YOU GOT AN IDEA BEFORE YOU OPENED YOUR DAMN MOUTH!!
HELL FUCKING NO! I JUST STARTED THINKING OF ONE JUST NOW!!
WHY THE FUCKIN' HELL DID YOU PROMISE HIM THAT?!?!
WHAT THE HELL WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?!

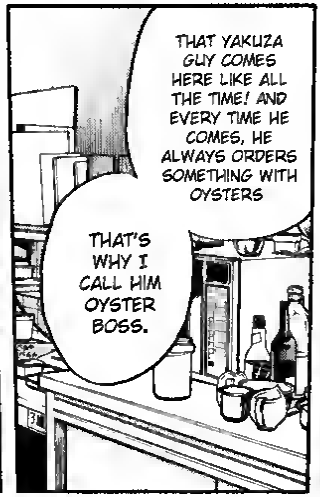

SHUT UP! JUST SHUT UP AND THINK!!
I DON'T FUCKING BELIEVE THIS GUY! HOW CAN ANYONE BE THIS STUPID!?

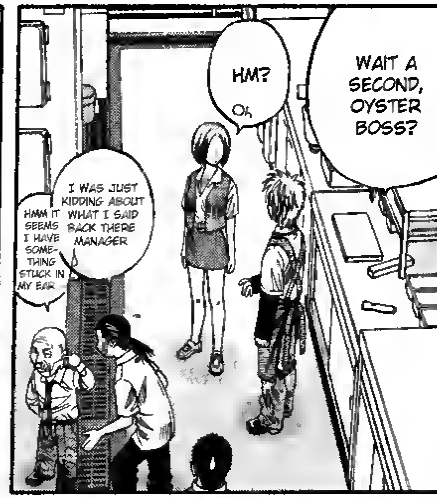
WHAAAT ?!
SHUT UP YOU STUPID BITCH! THIS IS ALSO YOUR FAULT!


AND OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, IT JUST HAD TO BE THE OYSTER BOSS.
YOU'RE SO SILLY. MAKING SUCH A RIDICULOUS PROMISE.
Just so unbelievable


THIS ISN'T HAPPENING — THIS IS NOT FUCKING HAPPENING...
KAITANI!
GRANDPA! HE'S BEING MEAN TO ME!!

.....
OYSTERS. HUH.. HMM.

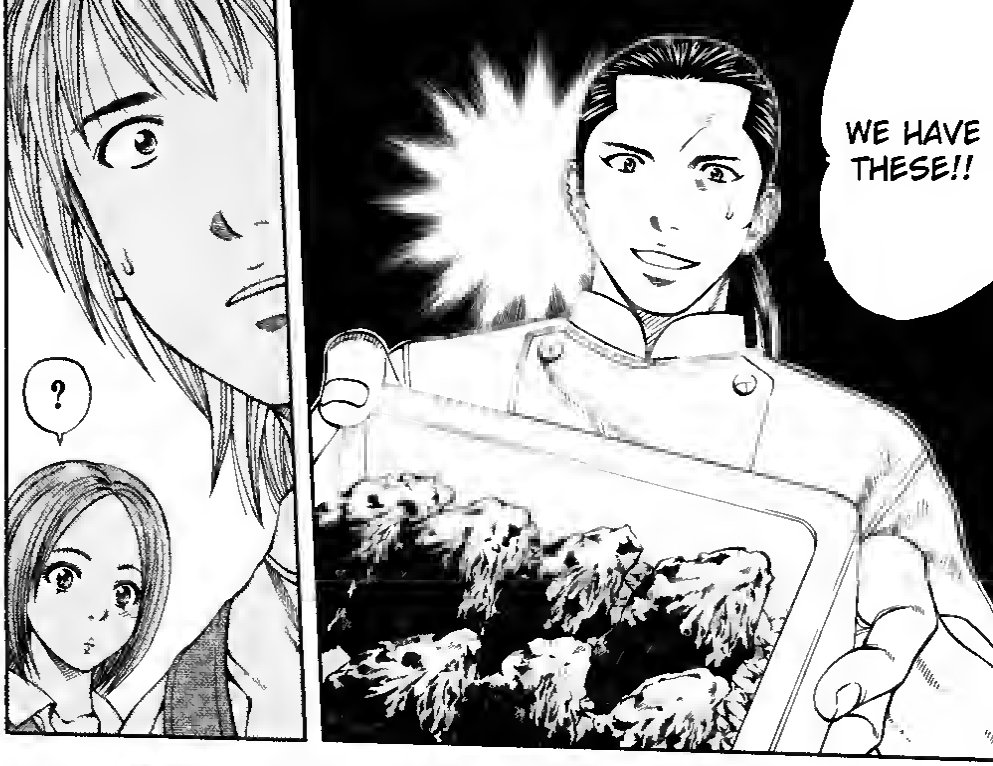

THAT YAKUZA GUY COMES HERE LIKE ALL THE TIME! AND EVERY TIME HE COMES, HE ALWAYS ORDERS SOMETHING WITH OYSTERS
THAT'S WHY I CALL HIM OYSTER BOSS.


WAIT A SECOND, OYSTER BOSS?
HM?
Oh,
I WAS JUST KIDDING ABOUT WHAT I SAID BACK THERE MANAGER
HMM IT SEEMS I HAVE SOMETHING STUCK IN MY EAR

HOLD UP!
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE PLANNING ON MAKING A CURRY WITH OYSTERS!
OYSTER SEASON IS BETWEEN FALL AND WINTER!
RIGHT NOW, IT'S OYSTER BREEDING SEASON. SO THEIR FLAVOR IS DIFFERENT AND THEY ARE HARD TO GET A HOLD OF! WE CAN'T USE OYSTERS!

NO "BUTS"! WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU PLANNING ANYWAY?! MAKE A REGULAR CURRY AND JUST STICK SOME FRIED OYSTERS IN IT?!
YEAH, BUT..

HM? WHAT?
YEAH! I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT THAT!
I JUST REMEMBERED...
NO, I WAS THINKING OF JUST COOKING THE OYSTERS IN THE CURRY ITSELF, BUT...
THEY'RE NOT IN SEASON!
(WAIT A MINUTE... OUT OF SEASON...)


WE HAVE THESE!!
?

YEAH!!
WITH THESE, ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS JUST COOK THEM IN THE SAME CURRY!

ARE YOU SURE WE CAN USE THEM ?!
YEAH! I ORDERED THESE FOR A NEW DISH I WAS MAKING! THEY JUST ARRIVED, SO THEY ARE STILL FRESH!
WAIT, ARE THESE...?!?!
?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW!

THEIR FLAVOR WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY PERMEATE THE CURRY AND THE SAUCE WOULD BE DELICIOUS...
IF WE JUST DUMP THESE INTO THE CURRY...
HE WOULD WANT TO ENJOY BOTH THE OYSTERS AND THE CURRY...
BUT THAT GUY HAS A DEEP PASSION FOR OYSTERS...
WE NEED TO ENHANCE THE OYSTER FLAVOR!
HUH?
KAITANI..
.....
WAIT A MINUTE...
HUH...
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT..

ARE YOU SERIOUS?
...YOU ARE...
I DO.
BUT THE CURRY WILL TASTE SO MUCH BETTER THIS WAY.
YOU DO REALIZE YOU'RE TAKING A HUGE RISK IN DOING THIS, RIGHT?
.....
WHEN IT COMES TO FLAVOR..
NO COM-PROMISE!!
.....

AFTER THIS IS ALL OVER..
ALRIGHT, KOUENJI...
BUT PROMISE ME THIS.
YOU AND I HAVE A REMATCH!
SMIRK

WHAT THE HELL...
IS TAKING THEM SO GOD DAMN LONG?!
IRRRRRRRITATED
!
PARDON ME!

HIME! PLEASE GO OUT THERE AND BUY US SOME TIME!
EW, WHY DO I HAVE TO DO THIS?!
WOULD YOU LIKE A DRINK WHILE YOU WAIT?♡
DEAREST CUSTOMER! ♡
HERE, TRY THIS.♡
.....
!
EEP!!
OH, KOYUKI ...
MY SWEET, LITTLE KOYUKI ...
HURRY UP, DAMN IT!!
EEE-EEE-EEW.
I GUESS THIS WILL DO FOR NOW!
MAPPY.. PLEASE.. HURRY..

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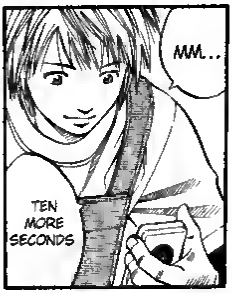
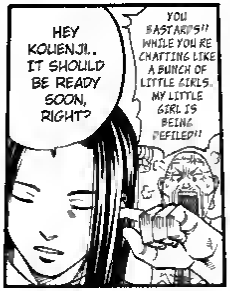
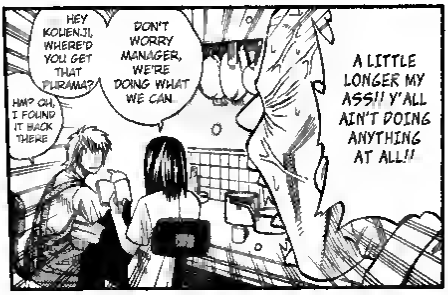
ガーン
I'M SORRY, MANAGER,
WE STILL NEED TO WAIT A LITTLE LONGER.
ギッ…


MM...
TEN MORE SECONDS


HEY KOUENJI.. IT SHOULD BE READY SOON, RIGHT?
YOU BASTARD'S!! WHILE YOU'RE CHATTING LIKE A BUNCH OF LITTLE GIRLS, MY LITTLE GIRL IS BEING DEFILED!!


HEY KOUENJI, WHERE'D YOU GET THAT PURAMA?
HM? OH, I FOUND IT BACK THERE
DON'T WORRY MANAGER, WE'RE DOING WHAT WE CAN.
A LITTLE LONGER MY ASS!! Y'ALL AIN'T DOING ANYTHING AT ALL!!

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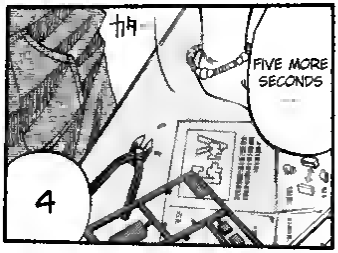
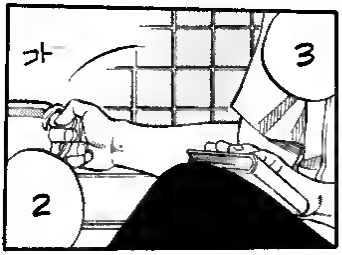

カカ
FIVE MORE SECONDS
4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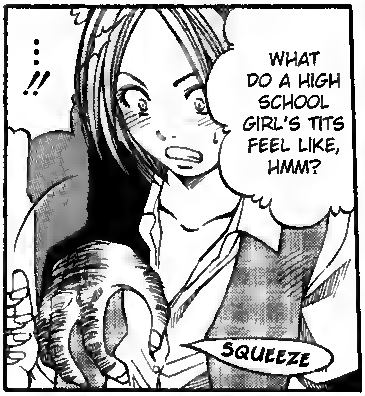
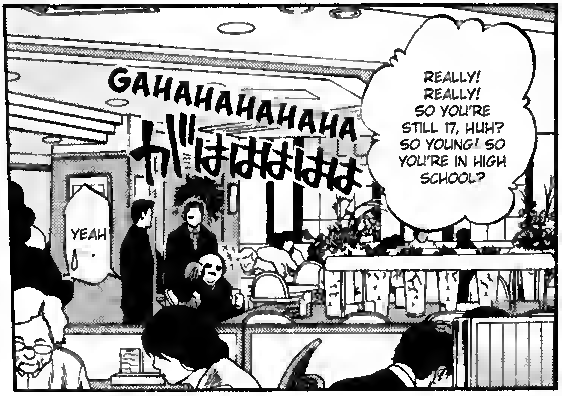
2

GO TIME!
華塵敷


……!!
WHAT DO A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL'S TITS FEEL LIKE, HMM?
SQUEEZE


GAHAHAHAHAHA
かはははは
YEAH
REALLY! REALLY! SO YOU'RE STILL 17, HUH? SO YOUNG! SO YOU'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL?

SORRY FOR THE WAIT!
GAH-AHAH-AHAH!
!
HUH?
THIS BALD BASTARD PISSES ME OFF!
.....
OOH!! SO PLUMP! AND SOFT! HIGH-SCHOOL GIRL BOOBS ARE THE BEST!
HONKAHONKAHONKAHONKA

A SPECIAL CURRY SPECIAL JUST FOR YOU.
GO AHEAD, TRY IT
...
!
.....
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG, YOU IDIOT!!
YOU'RE-

YES SIR! OYSTER CURRY!

HEY KID... IS THIS WHAT I THINK IT IS?

YOU SURE ARE CONFI-DENT...

.....

I'M WELL AWARE OF THAT, SIR!

.....

ARE YOU JUST PLAIN STUPID?

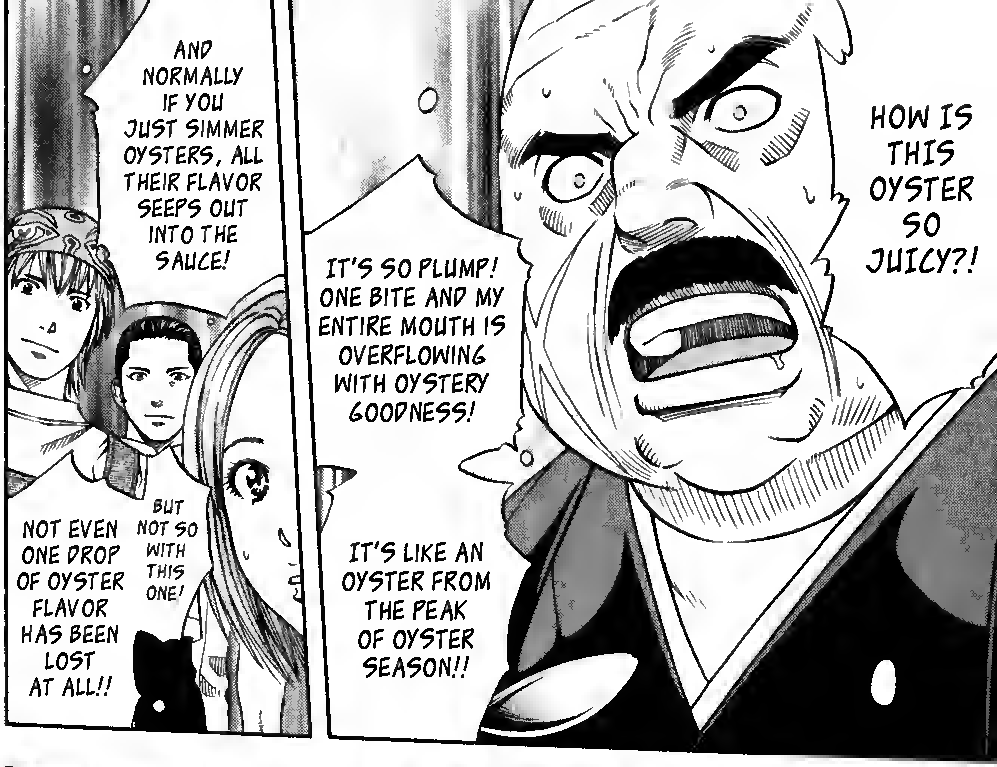
I AM...

BECAUSE ..

YOU'RE BETTING YOUR FINGERS ON THIS, YA KNOW?!

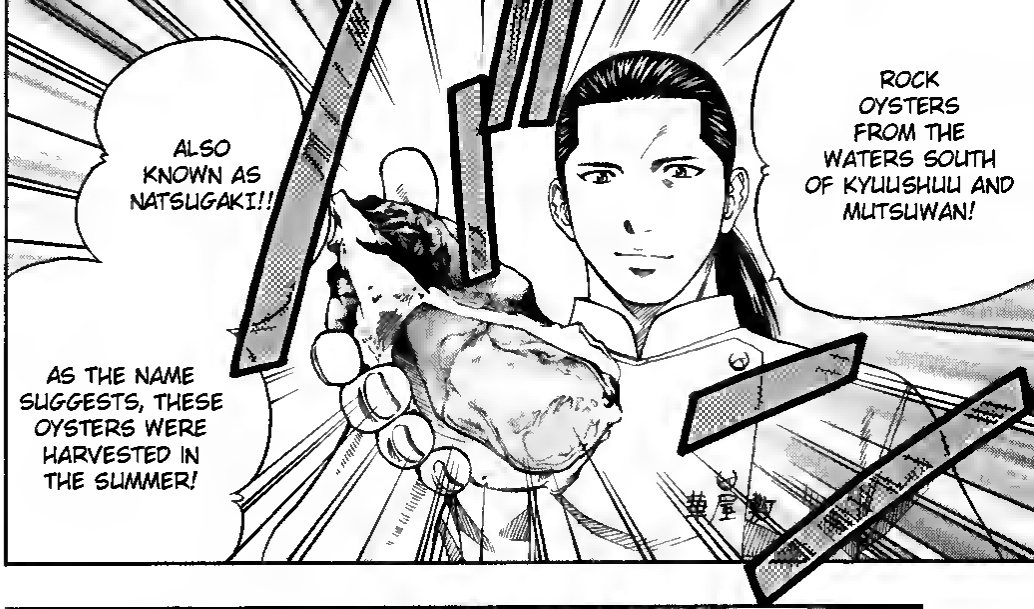
THOSE OYSTERS WERE CAUGHT IN THE SUMMER!

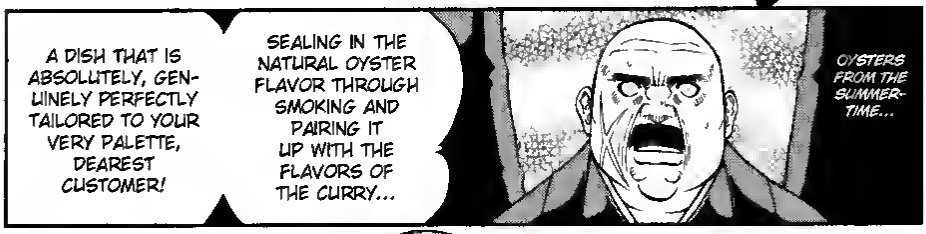
WHA...
WHA.. WHA...
WHAAAAT?!

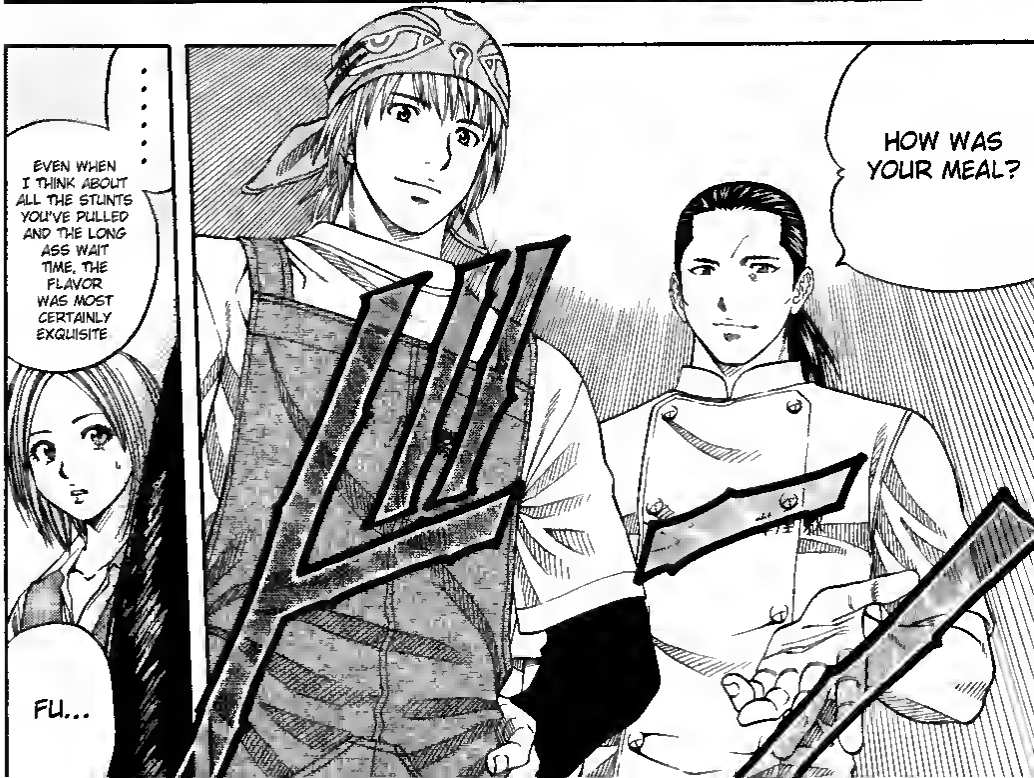

AND NORMALLY IF YOU JUST SIMMER OYSTERS, ALL THEIR FLAVOR SEEPS OUT INTO THE SAUCE!
NOT EVEN ONE DROP OF OYSTER FLAVOR HAS BEEN LOST AT ALL!!
BUT NOT SO WITH THIS ONE!
IT'S SO PLUMP! ONE BITE AND MY ENTIRE MOUTH IS OVERFLOWING WITH OYSTERY GOODNESS!
IT'S LIKE AN OYSTER FROM THE PEAK OF OYSTER SEASON!!
HOW IS THIS OYSTER SO JUICY?!

THOSE OYSTERS...
WERE SMOKED.
IT'S SIMPLE, REALLY
WHAT MAGIC IS THIS?!
THE OYSTERS TASTE LIKE OYSTERS, THE CURRY TASTES LIKE CURRY... THEIR FLAVORS ARE SO PRONOUNCED THAT THEY ARE IN PERFECT HARMONY!

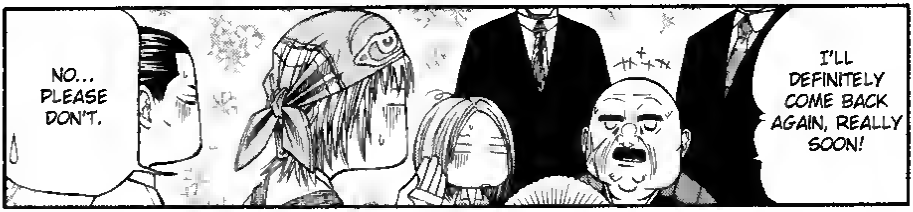
IN ORDER TO PRESERVE AND AMPLIFY THE OYSTERS FLAVOR, WE SPRINKLED SALT AND PEPPER ON THEM AND LET THEM SIT FOR ONE HOUR.
WE REMOVED THE EXCESS WATER AND SMOKED IT WITH GREEN TEA LEAVES AND SUGAR.
WE DID THAT SO THE OYSTERS' FLAVOR CAN STAND STRONG AGAINST THE CURRY,
SO THAT YOU CAN ENJOY BOTH THE OYSTERS AND CURRY AT THEIR MAXIMUM FLAVOR!
SMOKED OYSTERS?!
AH..
BUT WAIT...
HOW DID YOU GET THESE OYSTERS TO TASTE AND FEEL LIKE OYSTERS DURING OYSTER SEASON?!
OH...
THAT'S BECAUSE THOSE OYSTERS ARE IN SEASON!

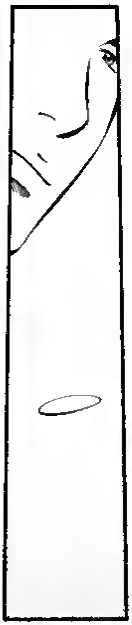

ROCK OYSTERS FROM THE WATERS SOUTH OF KYUUSHUU AND MUTSUWAN!
ALSO KNOWN AS NATSUGAKI!!
AS THE NAME SUGGESTS, THESE OYSTERS WERE HARVESTED IN THE SUMMER!

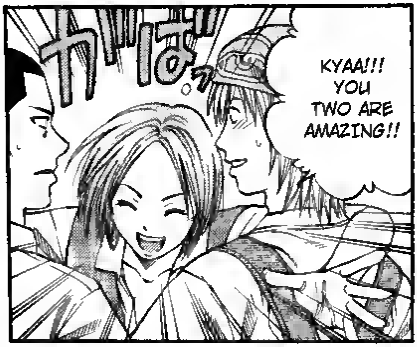

OYSTERS FROM THE SUMMER-TIME...
SEALING IN THE NATURAL OYSTER FLAVOR THROUGH SMOKING AND PAIRING IT UP WITH THE FLAVORS OF THE CURRY...
A DISH THAT IS ABSOLUTELY, GENUINELY PERFECTLY TAILORED TO YOUR VERY PALETTE, DEAREST CUSTOMER!

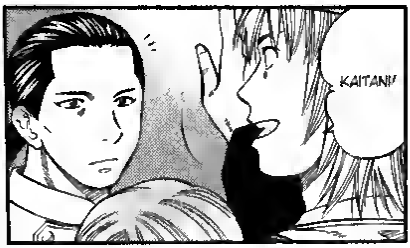

HOW WAS YOUR MEAL?
.....
EVEN WHEN I THINK ABOUT ALL THE STUNTS YOU'VE PULLED AND THE LONG ASS WAIT TIME, THE FLAVOR WAS MOST CERTAINLY EXQUISITE
FU...

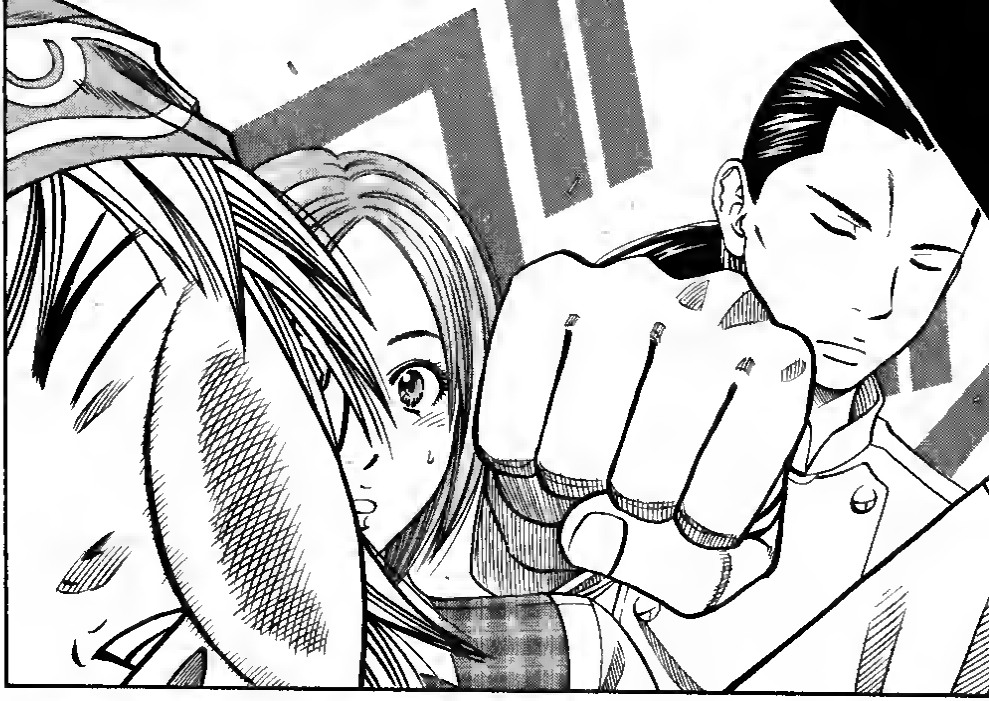
I'M SOLD!!
FUWAH-AHAHA-HAHA!


NO... PLEASE DON'T.
I'LL DEFINITELY COME BACK AGAIN, REALLY SOON!

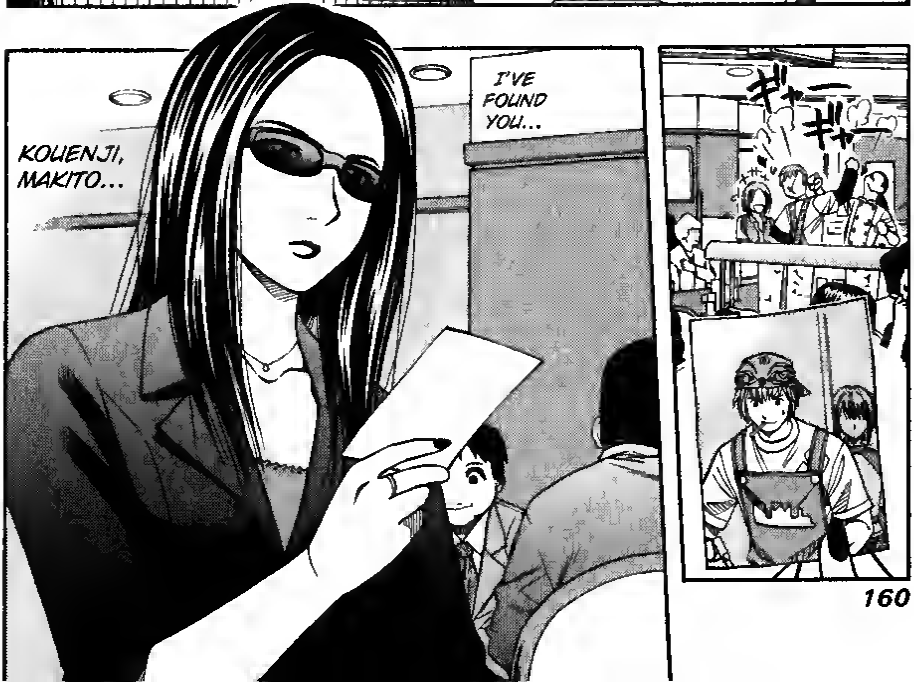



KYAA!!! YOU TWO ARE AMAZING!!

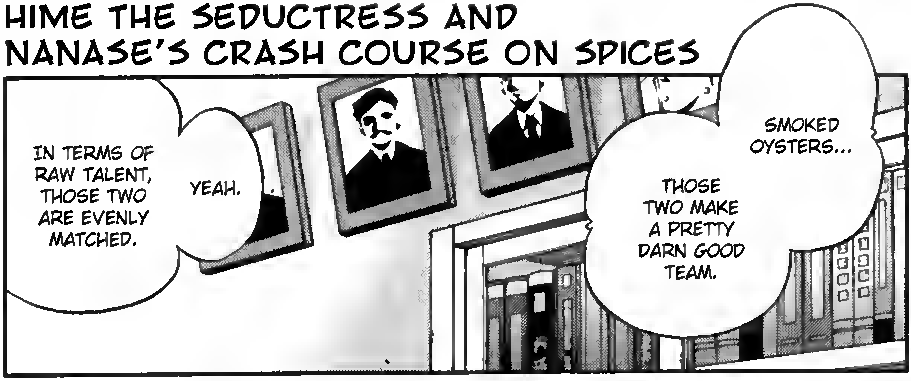

KAITAN!

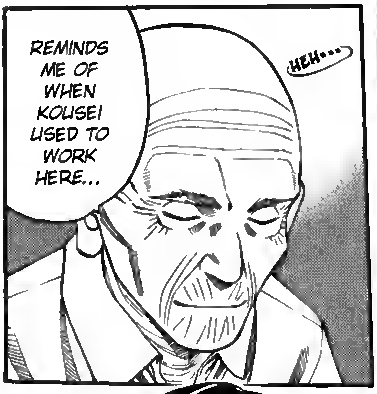


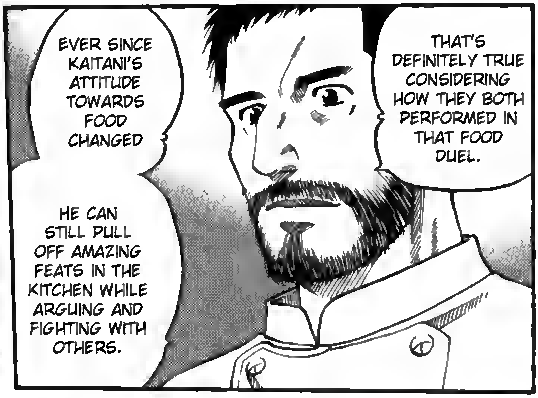
.....
AAHA-HAHA-HAHA.
BITCH! YOU WANT A REMATCH?! YOU GOT IT!!
OUR REMATCH!
WHAT THE FUCK WAS THAT?!

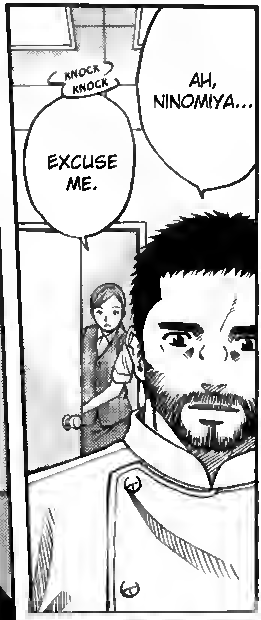

KOUENJI, MAKITO...
I'VE FOUND YOU...
ギャーギャー

CHAPTER 103: HIME THE SEDUCTRESS AND NANASE'S CRASH COURSE ON SPICES

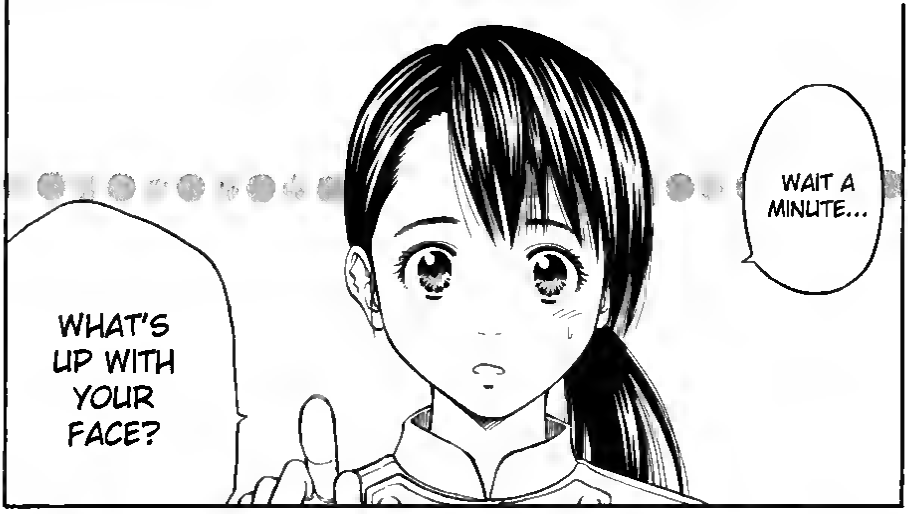


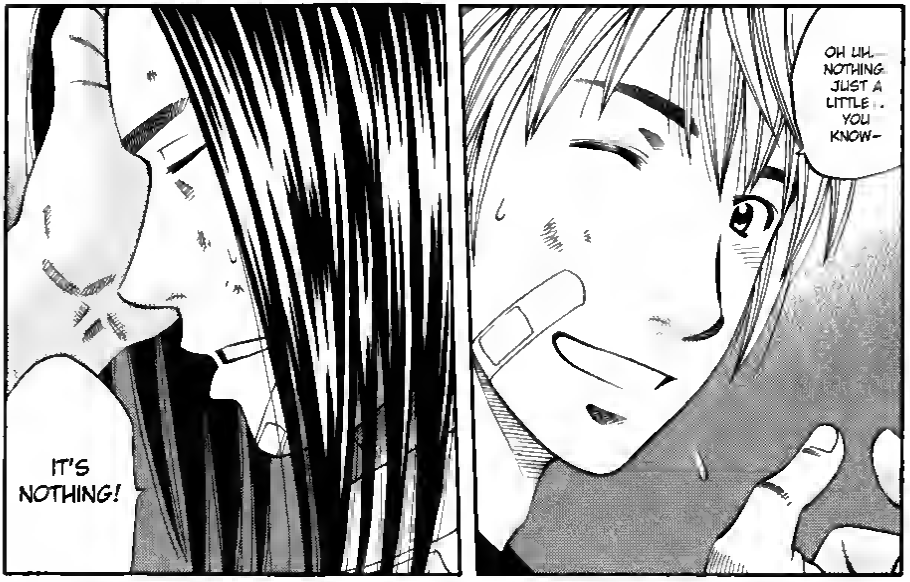


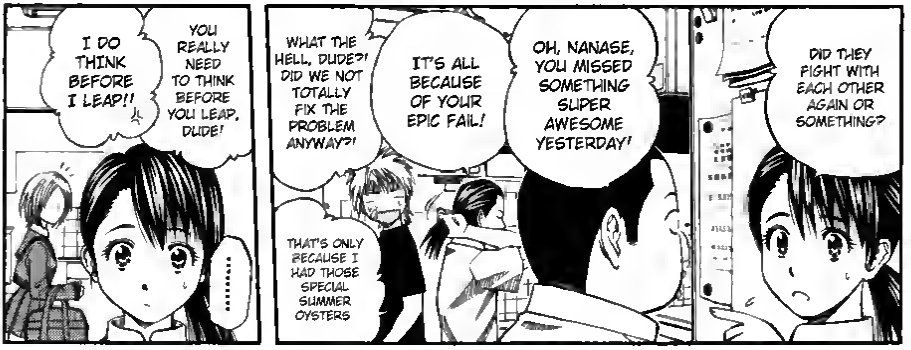

EVER SINCE KAITANI'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS FOOD CHANGED
HE CAN STILL PULL OFF AMAZING FEATS IN THE KITCHEN WHILE ARGUING AND FIGHTING WITH OTHERS.
THAT'S DEFINITELY TRUE CONSIDERING HOW THEY BOTH PERFORMED IN THAT FOOD DUEL.

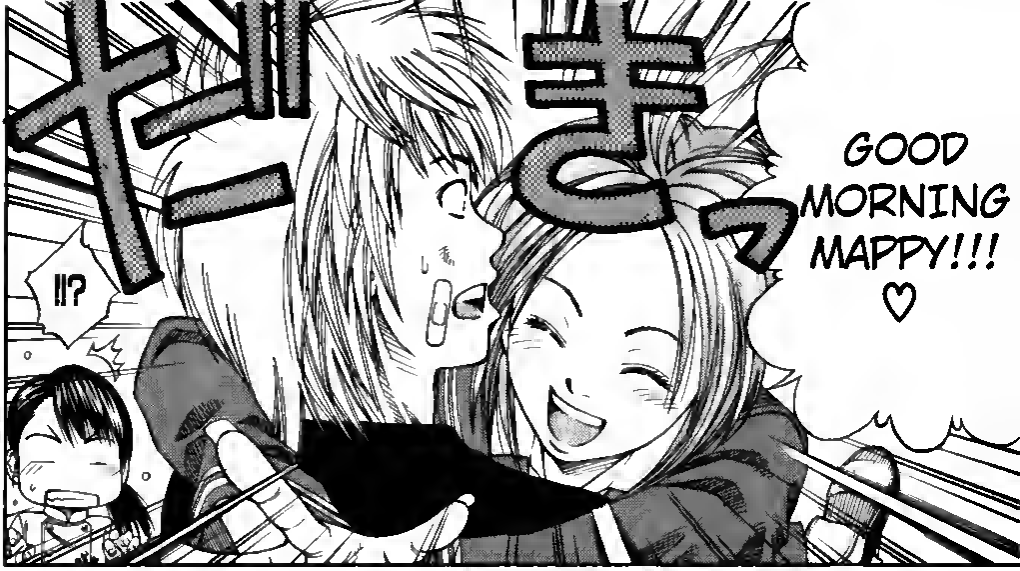


CHAPTER 103:
HIME THE SEDUCTRESS AND NANASE'S CRASH COURSE ON SPICES

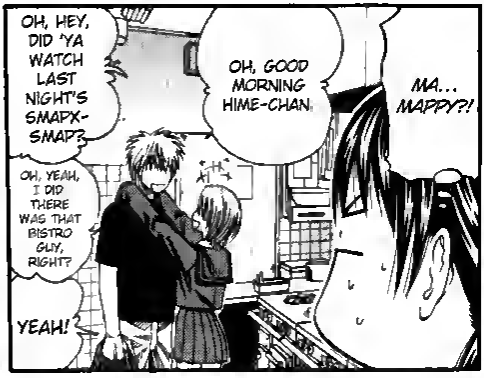

WAIT A MINUTE...
WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR FACE?


OH UH... NOTHING. JUST A LITTLE. YOU KNOW-
IT'S NOTHING!

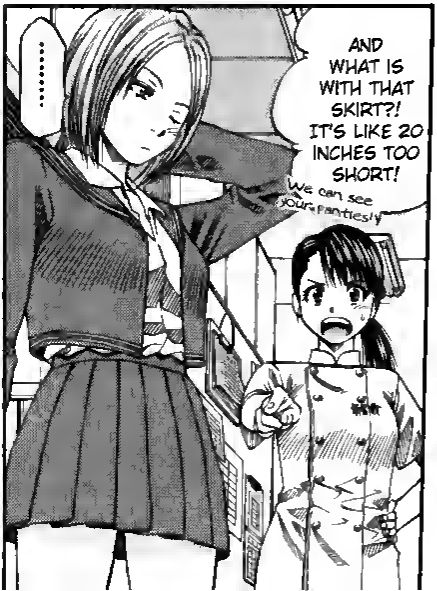

YOU REALLY NEED TO THINK BEFORE YOU LEAP, DUDE!
I DO THINK BEFORE I LEAP!!
.....
WHAT THE HELL, DUDE?! DID WE NOT TOTALLY FIX THE PROBLEM ANYWAY?!
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR EPIC FAIL!
OH, NANASE, YOU MISSED SOMETHING SUPER AWESOME YESTERDAY!
THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE I HAD THOSE SPECIAL SUMMER OYSTERS
DID THEY FIGHT WITH EACH OTHER AGAIN OR SOMETHING?

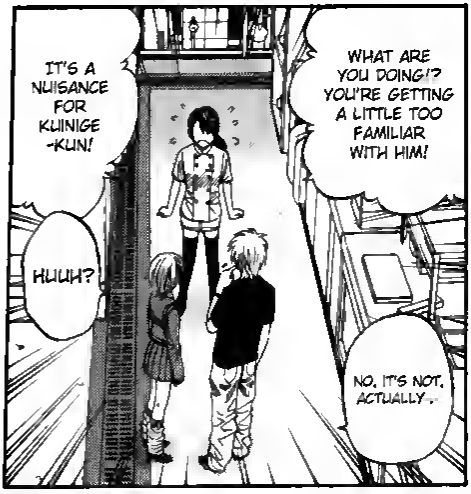

GOOD MORNING MAPPY!!! ♡
!!?

HEY! HIME! SHOULDN'T YOU BE AT SCHOOL RIGHT NOW?!
CLOSED FOR THE DAY.


MA... MAPPY?!
OH, GOOD MORNING HIME-CHAN.
OH, HEY, DID 'YA WATCH LAST NIGHT'S SMAPX-SMAP?
OH, YEAH, I DID THERE WAS THAT BISTRO GUY, RIGHT?
YEAH!

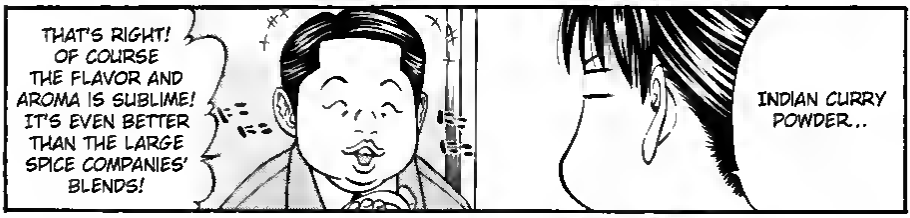
SO ANYWAY THAT SHINGO-CHAN
I KNOW, RIGHT?!
THEN WHY ARE YOU STILL WEARING YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM?
Stop getting in your way!


AND WHAT IS WITH THAT SKIRT?! IT'S LIKE 20 INCHES TOO SHORT!
We can see your fantiesly


WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? YOU'RE GETTING A LITTLE TOO FAMILIAR WITH HIM!
IT'S A NUISANCE FOR KUINIGE -KUN!
HUUH?
NO, IT'S NOT. ACTUALLY..

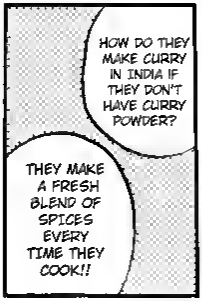
BESIDES, YOU'RE ONE TO TALK, NANASE-SAN!
YOU'RE SO OLD AND YOU STILL WEARING SUCH A SHORT MINI SKIRT!
OLD?!
YOINK
THAT'S FINE WITH ME?
No biggie
HMM HMM
ひらひら
FLAP FLAP
OOOH-
おお♥
20 YEARS OLD AND OLDER IS CONSIDERED OLD!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING OLD?! I'M ONLY 20!
TH-THERE'S THIS GUY HERE FROM SOME FOOD PRODUCT COMPANY LOOKING FOR THE CHEF IN CHARGE OF THE CURRY.
WHAAA-AAAAT?!
FOOD PRODUCT COMPANY?
NANASE-SAN!
THEN I HAVE 3 YEARS LEFT OF MY YOUTH!
Unlike SOMEONE I know
BESIDES, THAT MEANS YOU'LL BE AN OLD LADY IN 3 YEARS TOO!
WHYY YOU LITTLEEE! HOW DARE YOU GO ALL PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE ON ME?!
YOU MAKE ME SO MAD YOU LITTLE...

KAYA HAS HAD ITS SPICES BLENDED BY THE SAME TWO COMPANIES SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, SO...
YEAH, UM...
YES, I AM WELL AWARE...
HOWEVER, OUR COMPANY'S CURRY POWDER CONTAINS RARE AND EXOTIC SPICES ONLY FOUND IN THE HIGHEST QUALITIES OF INDIAN CURRY POWDERS.
HEPPOKO CURRY POWDER


INDIAN CURRY POWDER..
THAT'S RIGHT! OF COURSE THE FLAVOR AND AROMA IS SUBLIME! IT'S EVEN BETTER THAN THE LARGE SPICE COMPANIES' BLENDS!

NANASE -SAN...
WHY DO I HAVE TO KEEP DEALING WITH SUCH MORONS...
Eeeeek
RUNNING

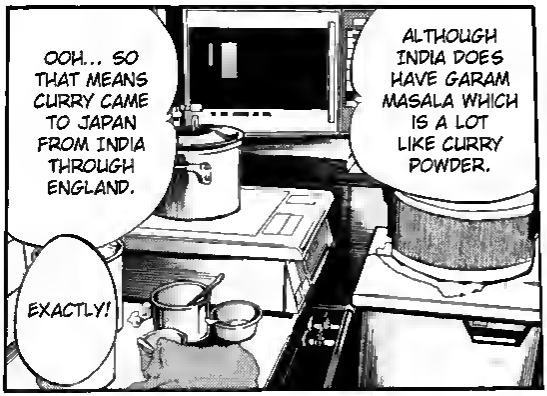
GET THE F*** OUTTA MY FACE!!
INDIA DOESN'T USE CURRY POWDER YOU FLIPPIN' DUMBASS!!
HEEEEK!!

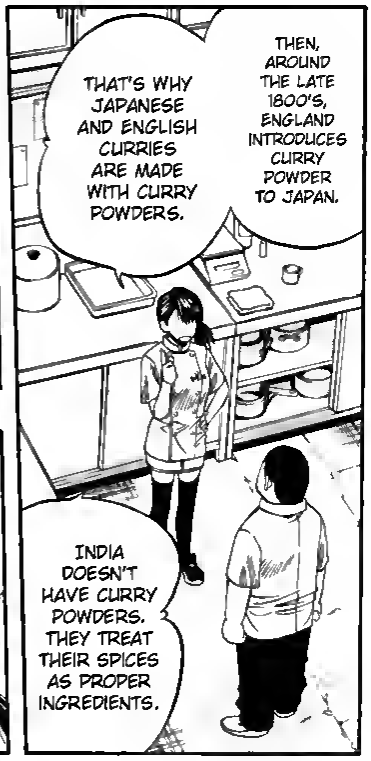

HOW DO THEY MAKE CURRY IN INDIA IF THEY DON'T HAVE CURRY POWDER?
THEY MAKE A FRESH BLEND OF SPICES EVERY TIME THEY COOK!!

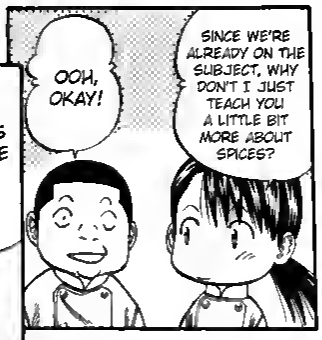
IS THERE REALLY NO CURRY POWDER IN INDIA?
HOW ARE WE EVEN WORKING IN THE SAME KITCHEN

CROSSE & BLACKWELL
PURE
CURRIE
POWDER
TECHNICALLY SPEAKING, "CURRY POWDER" IS A BRITISH INVENTION... PLEASE TELL ME YOU KNOW THAT INDIA WAS ONCE A COLONY OF BRITAIN...
IN THE LATE 18TH CENTURY, AN ENGLISHMAN WHO VISITED INDIA WANTED TO REPLICATE THE SAME FLAVORS HE ENJOYED IN INDIA, BUT HE COULDN'T...
BUT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 19TH CENTURY, A BRITISH COMPANY CALLED C&B CREATED THE WORLD'S FIRST CURRY POWDER.

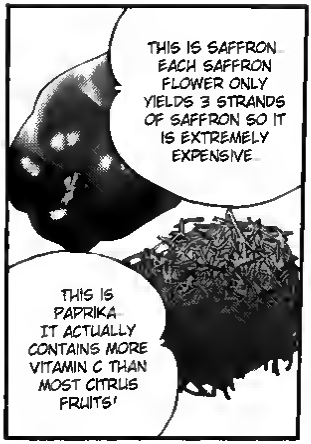
THEY MAKE A FRESH BATCH OF CURRY POWDER EVERY TIME?!
NOT EXA-CTLY !!

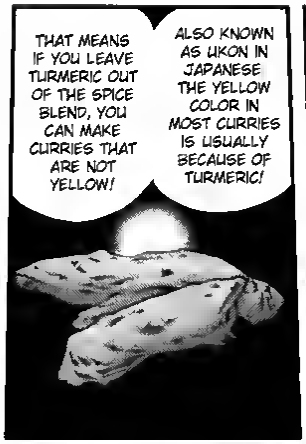

OOH... SO THAT MEANS CURRY CAME TO JAPAN FROM INDIA THROUGH ENGLAND.
ALTHOUGH INDIA DOES HAVE GARAM MASALA WHICH IS A LOT LIKE CURRY POWDER.
EXACTLY!


THEN, AROUND THE LATE 1800'S, ENGLAND INTRODUCES CURRY POWDER TO JAPAN.
THAT'S WHY JAPANESE AND ENGLISH CURRIES ARE MADE WITH CURRY POWDERS.
INDIA DOESN'T HAVE CURRY POWDERS. THEY TREAT THEIR SPICES AS PROPER INGREDIENTS.

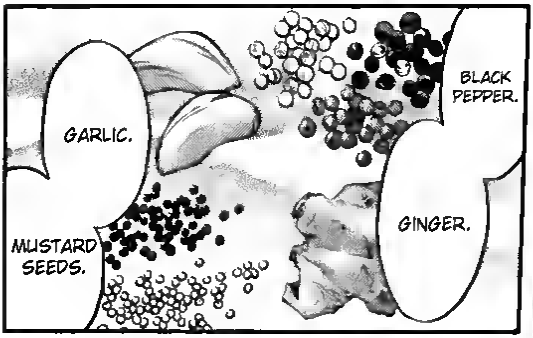

OOH, OKAY!
SINCE WE'RE ALREADY ON THE SUBJECT, WHY DON'T I JUST TEACH YOU A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT SPICES?

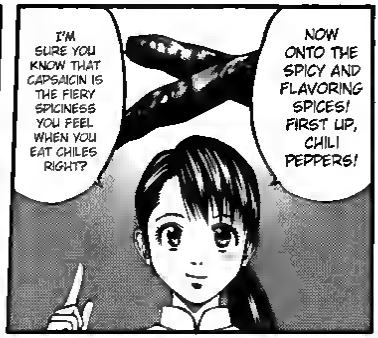
SIMPLY PUT, EACH SPICE IS USED FOR ONE OF 3 MAIN PURPOSES
AROMA, FLAVOR, AND COLOR!

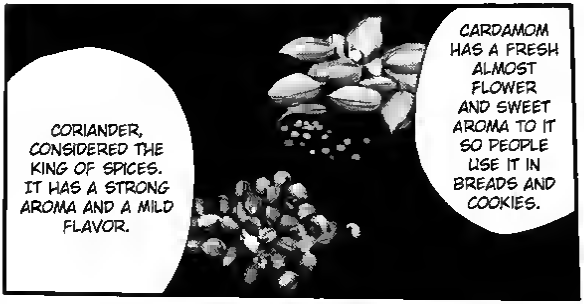

THIS IS SAFFRON. EACH SAFFRON FLOWER ONLY YIELDS 3 STRANDS OF SAFFRON SO IT IS EXTREMELY EXPENSIVE.
THIS IS PAPRIKA. IT ACTUALLY CONTAINS MORE VITAMIN C THAN MOST CITRUS FRUITS!


THAT MEANS IF YOU LEAVE TURMERIC OUT OF THE SPICE BLEND, YOU CAN MAKE CURRIES THAT ARE NOT YELLOW!
ALSO KNOWN AS UKON IN JAPANESE THE YELLOW COLOR IN MOST CURRIES IS USUALLY BECAUSE OF TURMERIC!

LET'S START WITH COLOR! DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS SPICE IS?
THAT'S... TURMERIC, RIGHT?
RIGHT!

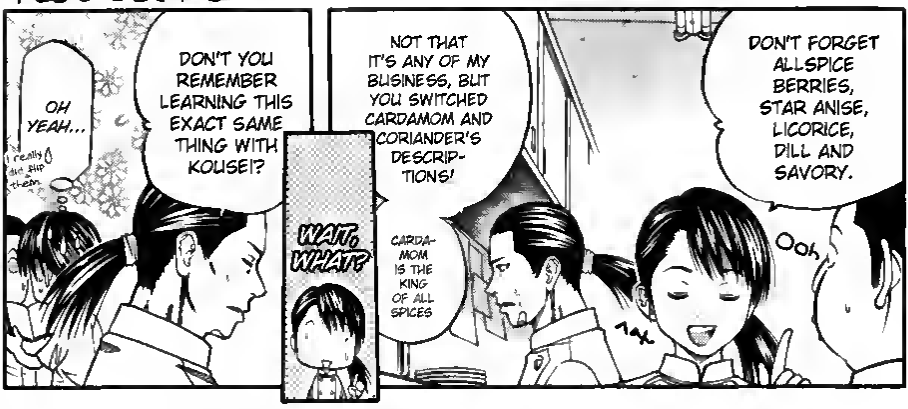

GARLIC.
BLACK PEPPER.
MUSTARD SEEDS.
GINGER.

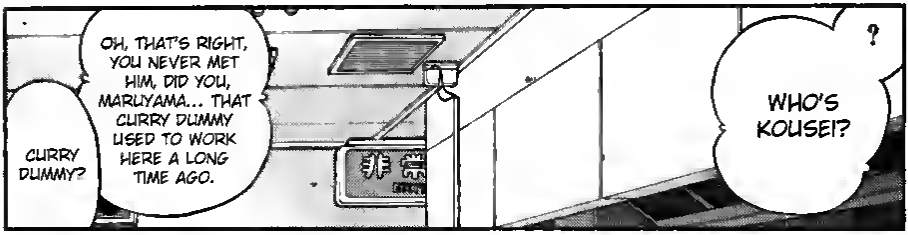

I'M SURE YOU KNOW THAT CAPSAICIN IS THE FIERY SPICINESS YOU FEEL WHEN YOU EAT CHILES RIGHT?
NOW ONTO THE SPICY AND FLAVORING SPICES! FIRST UP, CHILI PEPPERS!


CORIANDER, CONSIDERED THE KING OF SPICES. IT HAS A STRONG AROMA AND A MILD FLAVOR.
CARDAMOM HAS A FRESH ALMOST FLOWER AND SWEET AROMA TO IT SO PEOPLE USE IT IN BREADS AND COOKIES.

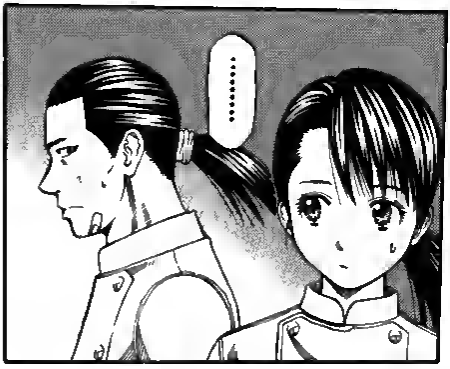
AS FOR AROMATIC SPICES...
CUMIN GIVES OFF THAT AROMA YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU THINK CURRY.

CARAWAY SEEDS, BAY LEAVES, NUTMEG, FENUGREEK.
OTHER AROMATIC SPICES INCLUDE, CLOVES, CINNAMON, FENNEL SEEDS,


DON'T YOU REMEMBER LEARNING THIS EXACT SAME THING WITH KOUSEI?
OH YEAH...
I really did skip class then.
WAIT, WHAT?
NOT THAT IT'S ANY OF MY BUSINESS, BUT YOU SWITCHED CARDAMOM AND CORIANDER'S DESCRIPTIONS!
CARDAMOM IS THE KING OF ALL SPICES
DON'T FORGET ALLSPICE BERRIES, STAR ANISE, LICORICE, DILL AND SAVORY.
Ooh
Yak


OH, THAT'S RIGHT, YOU NEVER MET HIM, DID YOU, MARUYAMA... THAT CURRY DUMMY USED TO WORK HERE A LONG TIME AGO.
CURRY DUMMY?
WHO'S KOUSEI?
?

WHY? IF HE REALLY WAS THAT GOOD THEN...
BUT HE GOT FIRED ABOUT A YEAR AGO.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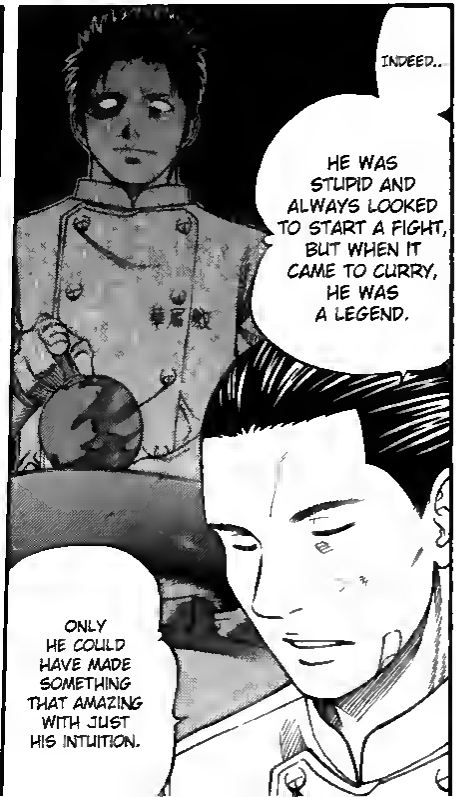
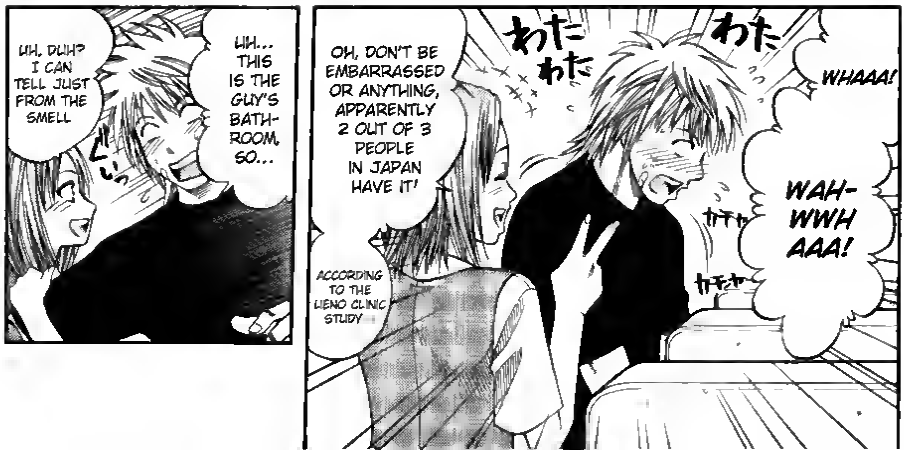
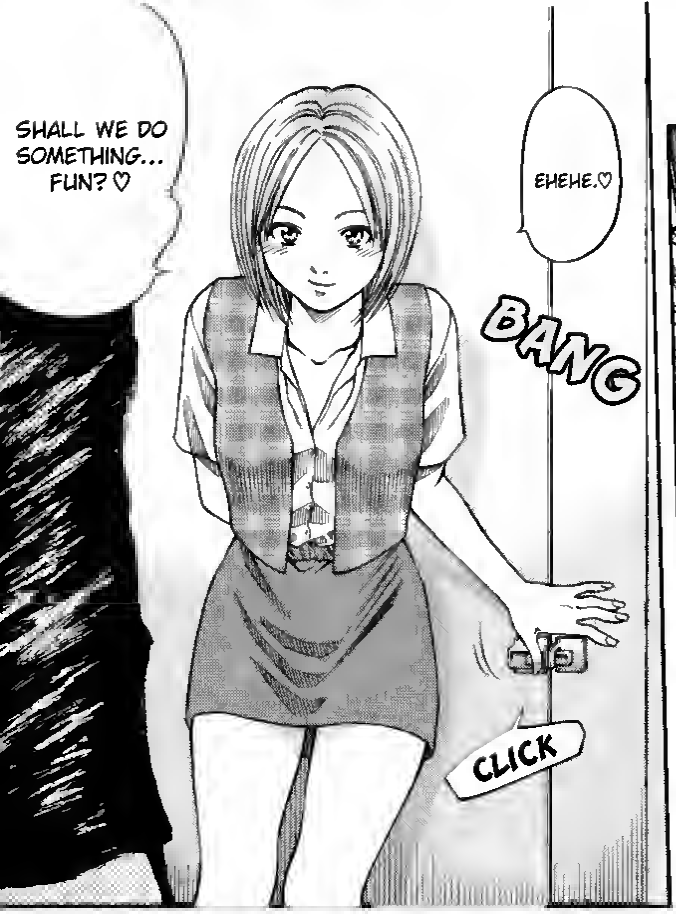
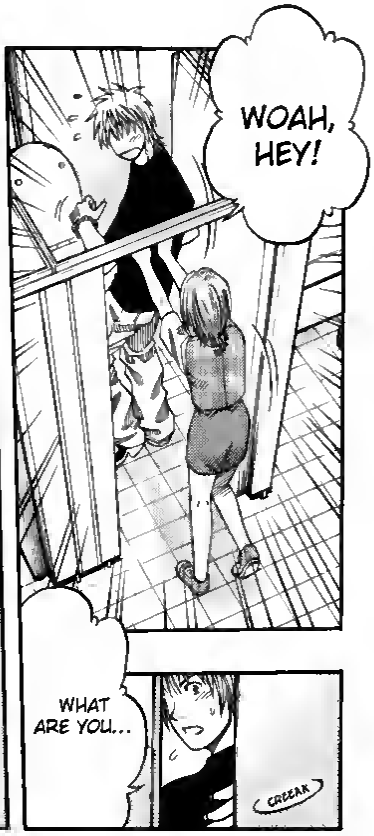
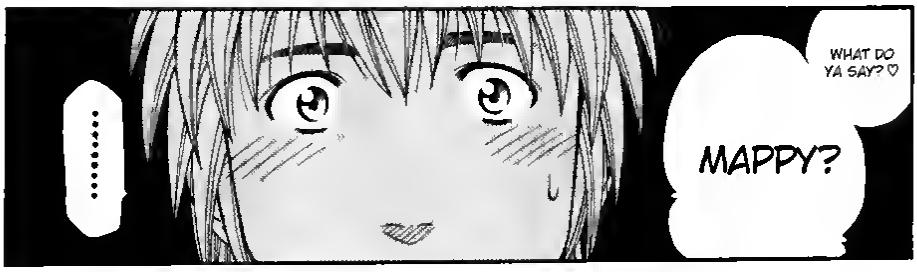

INDEED..
HE WAS STUPID AND ALWAYS LOOKED TO START A FIGHT, BUT WHEN IT CAME TO CURRY, HE WAS A LEGEND.
ONLY HE COULD HAVE MADE SOMETHING THAT AMAZING WITH JUST HIS INTUITION.

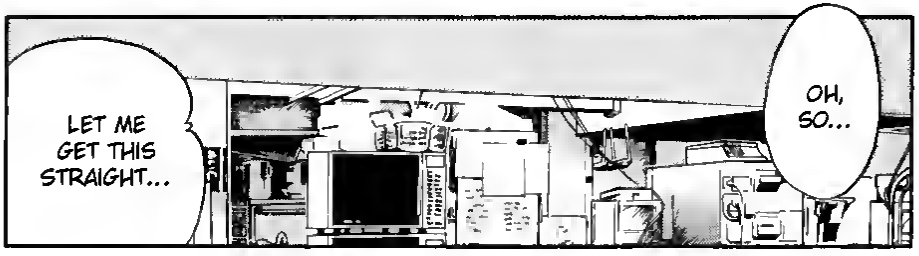
BECAUSE OF HIME ..
PISSSSSSS
PIS
SS
IS THAT FOR REAL? OR IS IT JUST COLD IN HERE?
!!?
!!!


UH... THIS IS THE GUY'S BATH-ROOM, SO...
UH, DUH? I CAN TELL JUST FROM THE SMELL
OH, DON'T BE EMBARRASSED OR ANYTHING, APPARENTLY 2 OUT OF 3 PEOPLE IN JAPAN HAVE IT!
ACCORDING TO THE UENO CLINIC STUDY
わた
わた
わた
WHAAA!
WAH-WWH AAA!
カチャ
カチャ


SHALL WE DO SOMETHING... FUN? ♡
EHEHE.♡
BANG
CLICK


WOAH, HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU...
CREEAK


WHAT DO YA SAY? ♡
MAPPY?
.....

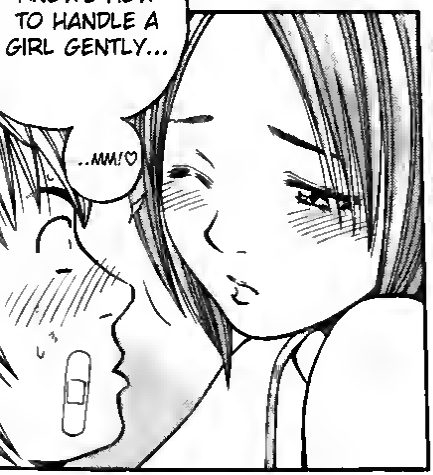

LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT...
OH, SO...

AND EVER SINCE THEN, KAYA HAS HAD ONE ABSOLUTE LAW.
IF YOU WORK AT KAYA...
FIRED HIS SORRY ASS?
MANAGER FOUND OUT KOUSEI LAID HIS HANDS ON HIMENO, AND...
SNIP
THAT SUCKS MAN HIMENO-SAN IS CUTE
AVOID HER LIKE THE PLAGUE!
NEVER EVER TOUCH HIMENO KOYUKI!!
NO MATTER WHAT...
THIS IS BORING, I'M JUST GONNA PREP THE CHILIES
IS THAT?
WAIT...

MAPPY...
DO YOU NOT LIKE PERVY CHICKS?
NO, I UH... NO PREFERENCE REALLY

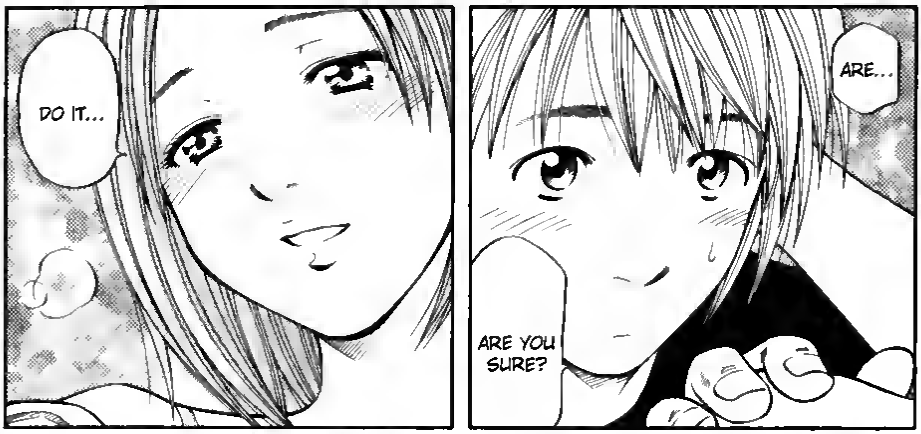
YOU KNOW... I'M PRETTY GOOD AT COOKING TOO
HONKA HONKA

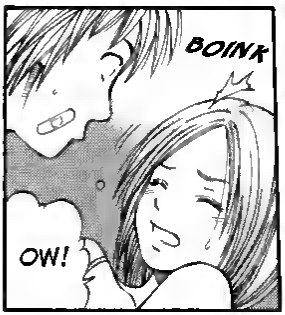
AND I LIKE A GUY WHO KNOWS HOW TO HANDLE A GIRL GENTLY...


..MM!♡

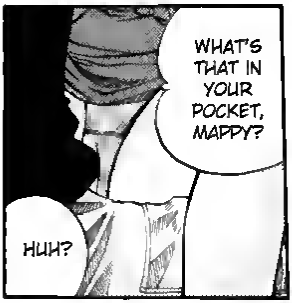
GIVE THEM A FEEL.♡
SQUEEZE
WOOOOO-OAHWOAW-HOAHWO!!

HOOLY SHIT, WHAT DO I DO?!
NORMALLY, I'D BE ALL OVER IT BUT THIS IS THE MANAGER'S GRAND-DAUGHTER!
WAIT, IS THIS REALLY HOW A GIRL HITS ON A MAN?!
.....


ARE...
ARE YOU SURE?
DO IT...


BOINK
OW!

HOWL
BOW CHICKA WOW WOOOW!!
AHH!♡


WHAT'S THAT IN YOUR POCKET, MAPPY?
HUH?

OH, YOUR CELL PHONE.
もぞ…
トカン
!?
INHALE
……
MEH, WHAT-EVER.
LET'S GET IT ON.♡

WHOA!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
.....
BOKI
SORRY...
!
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?!
WA- WAIT A MINUTE!
WHA?

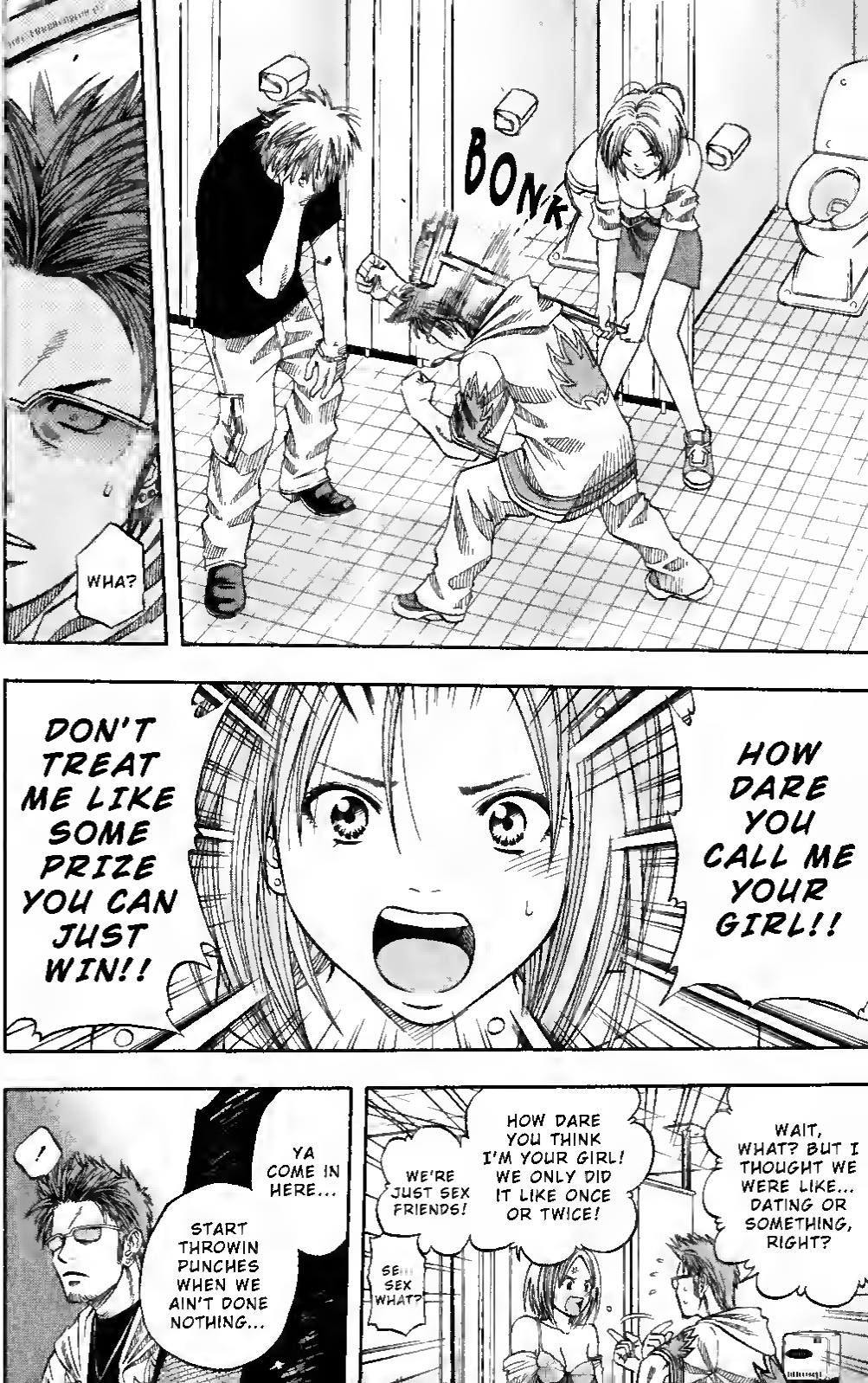
BAM
WAIT...
WHAT?

KOU-SEI...
KO...
'EY YOU!
YOU TRYIN' TA GIT YASELF' KILLED OR SUMTHIN'?!
!?

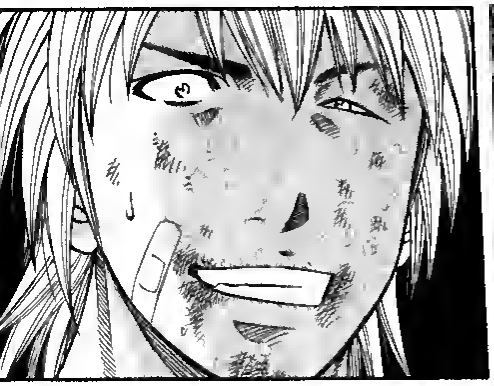
CHAPTER 104:
THE TONGUE OF
A CRAZY MAN
AND THE SPICE WARS
YOU FUCKIN' KIDDIN' ME, BRO !?
WHO THE FUCK'S GIRL YOU THINK YOU TOUCHIN' !?!?
KOU-
HAA-AAA-AAH?!

CHAPTER 104: THE TONGUE OF A CRAZY MAN AND THE SPICE WARS

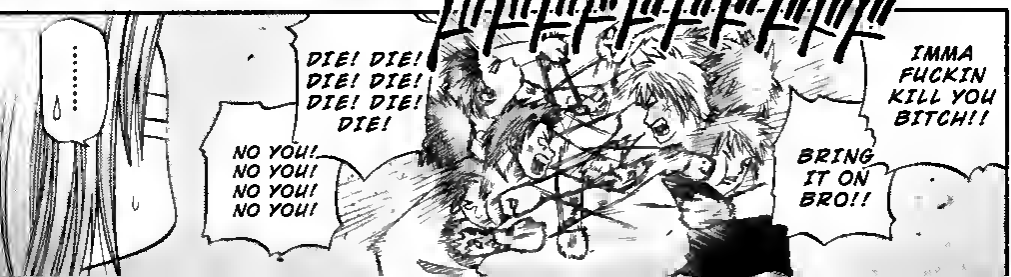
YOU GOT BALLS, BITCH! I'LL GIVE YA THAT!
ばらっ
GAH...
'CUZ YOU GONNA DIE!!!
TOO BAD THO-UGH.


BONK
WHA?
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE SOME PRIZE YOU CAN JUST WIN!!
HOW DARE YOU CALL ME YOUR GIRL!!
I
YA COME IN HERE...
START THROWIN PUNCHES WHEN WE AIN'T DONE NOTHING...
WE'RE JUST SEX FRIENDS!
HOW DARE YOU THINK I'M YOUR GIRL! WE ONLY DID IT LIKE ONCE OR TWICE!
SE SEX WHAT?
WAIT, WHAT? BUT I THOUGHT WE WERE LIKE... DATING OR SOMETHING, RIGHT?

FUCK YOU BITCH !!!



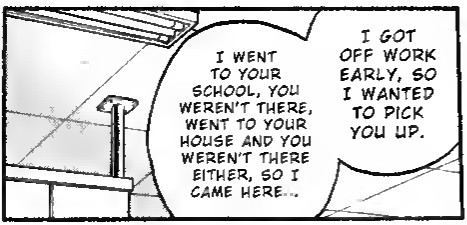
GRRR

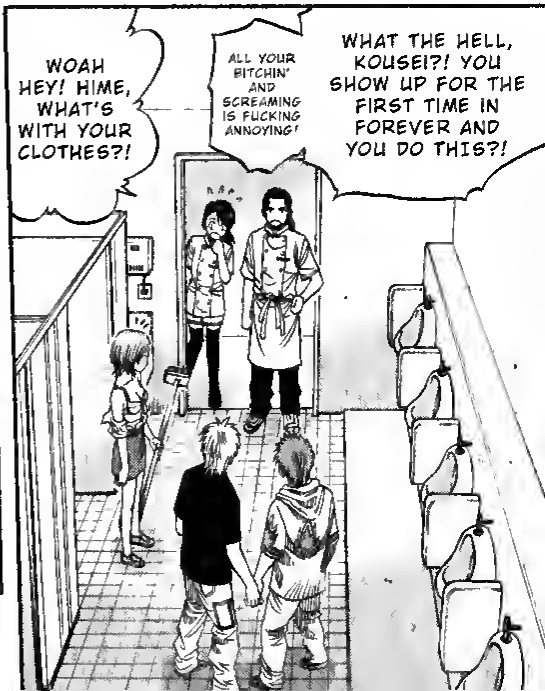

.....
DIE! DIE! DIE! DIE! DIE! DIE! DIE!
NO YOU! NO YOU! NO YOU! NO YOU!
IMMA FUCKIN KILL YOU BITCH!!
BRING IT ON BRO!!

GROW THE FUCK UP, DAMMIT!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TWO DOING?!

KAITANI...
K-

I CAME HERE TO FIND YOU!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! BESIDES, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY, KOUSEI?!


I WENT TO YOUR SCHOOL, YOU WEREN'T THERE, WENT TO YOUR HOUSE AND YOU WEREN'T THERE EITHER, SO I CAME HERE...
I GOT OFF WORK EARLY, SO I WANTED TO PICK YOU UP.

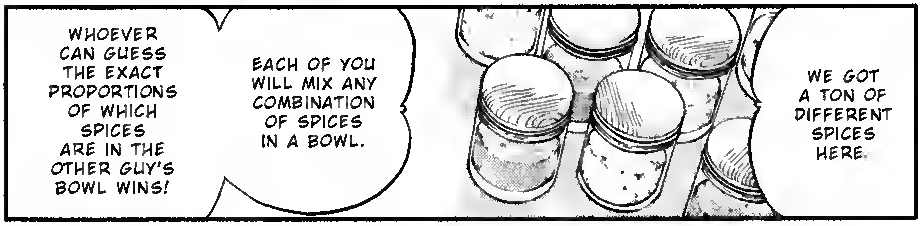

WOAH HEY! HIME, WHAT'S WITH YOUR CLOTHES?!
ALL YOUR BITCHIN' AND SCREAMING IS FUCKING ANNOYING!
WHAT THE HELL, KOUSEI?! YOU SHOW UP FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FOREVER AND YOU DO THIS?!

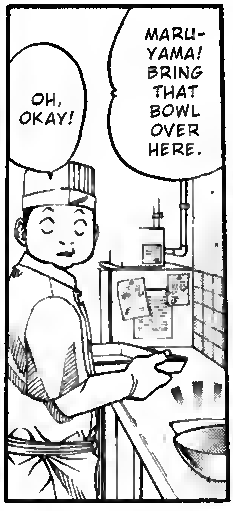
AWW CRAP, UH..
DURING BUSINESS HOURS TOO...
UH HUH... JUST SQUEEZED HER BOOBS, HUH...
PFFT!
GROPING IS A FUCKIN' FELONY DUMBASS!!
WE WEREN'T MAKING OUT! I JUST SQUEEZED HER BOOBS!!
AND THEN I FIND YOU MAKIN' OUT WITH THIS BITCH IN THE BATHROOM!!
DIDN'T I JUST TELL YOU TO STOP!?
WHAT-CHU SAY ABOUT MY MOM-MA?!
WHY YOU LITTLE-
SO IN THIS CASE...
.....
ALL FROM A LITTLE MISUNDER-STANDING.
...AND OF COURSE KOUENJI HERE GETS THE SHIT KICKED OUTTA HIM LIKE A LITTLE BITCH...
Obviously Hime hits on him first
!
KOUSEI, YOU JUST GOT THE SHIT KICKED OUTTA YA BY YOUR OWN GIRL...
I'M NOT HIS GIRL!

YOU MUST BATTLE!!
華屋敷
Y'ALL AIN'T IN HIGH SCHOOL NO MORE! IN THE GROWN UP WORLD, WE SOLVE PROBLEMS WITH SKILL!
WAIT A MINUTE, DID HE JUST CALL ME STUPID?
SETTLE THIS SLAP FEST WITH WHAT YOU TWO DO BEST. FOOD!!
Y'ALL UNDERSTAND ME RIGHT? FORMER KAYA CHIEF ASSISTANT CHEF KOUSEI NINOMIYA!
CURRENT KAYA CHEF APPRENTICE KOUENJI MAKITO!
THAT'S WHAT WE WERE FUCKING DOING!!
NOT THAT KIND OF BATTLE!!
GOFF-
Seriously are y'all just as freakin' stupid as Nanese?!

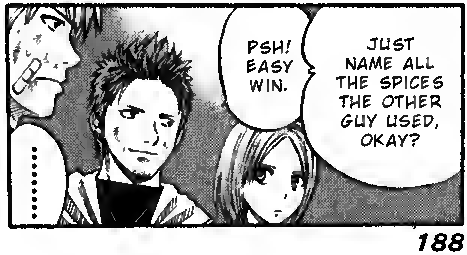
FINE WITH ME!!
THE FUCK CAN A STUPID APPRENTICE LIKE YOU DO AGAINST ME ANYWAY!
DEFINITELY CAN'T LOSE TO A FORMER CHEF!
.....
THE MANAGER IS GONNA BE SO PISSED WHEN HE FINDS OUT
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THE MATCH? HAVE THEM BOTH MAKE A DISH AGAIN?
GRRRR
THAT'S TRUE, HUH
GOT IT!

!!?
YOU'LL FIGHT WITH YOUR SENSES!


WHOEVER CAN GUESS THE EXACT PROPORTIONS OF WHICH SPICES ARE IN THE OTHER GUY'S BOWL WINS!
EACH OF YOU WILL MIX ANY COMBINATION OF SPICES IN A BOWL.
WE GOT A TON OF DIFFERENT SPICES HERE.

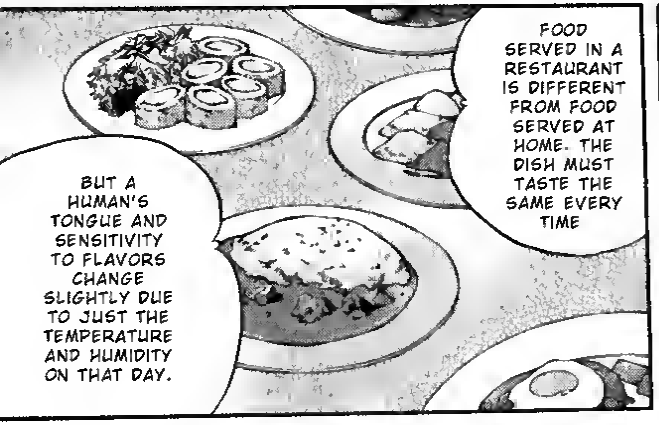

MARU-YAMA! BRING THAT BOWL OVER HERE.
OH, OKAY!

WHOA, WAIT, KAITANI-SAN!
HMM, YEAH
THE PRO-PORTIONS MIGHT BE A BIT TOO MUCH HUH...
Pretty much impossible actually


JUST NAME ALL THE SPICES THE OTHER GUY USED, OKAY?
PSH! EASY WIN.
.....

KAITANI-SAN! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO HERE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

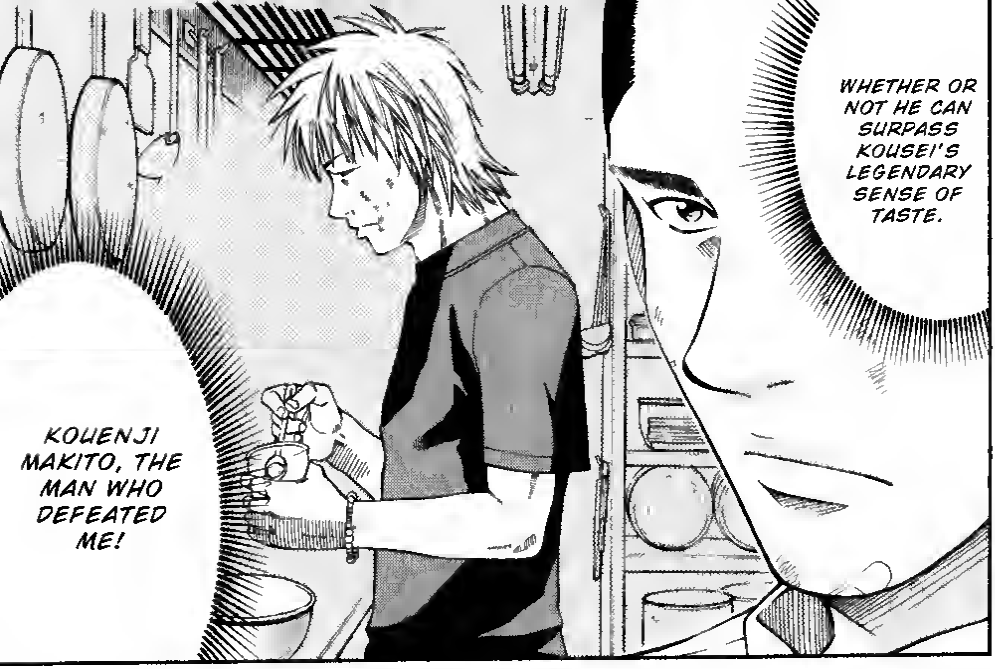
ALRIGHT, KOUENJI, YOU'RE UP FIRST!
.....

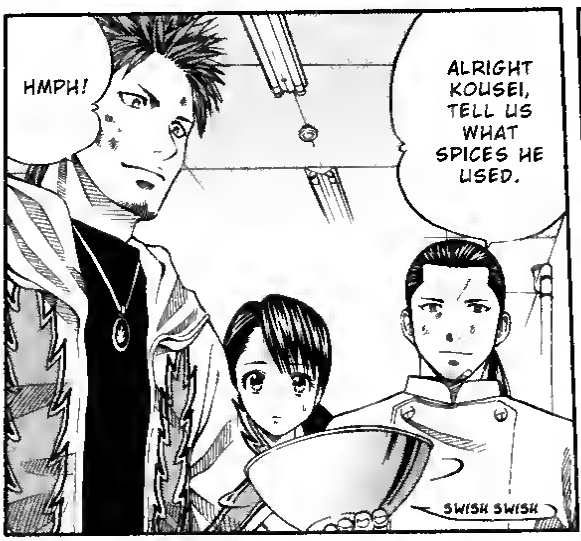

FOOD SERVED IN A RESTAURANT IS DIFFERENT FROM FOOD SERVED AT HOME. THE DISH MUST TASTE THE SAME EVERY TIME
BUT A HUMAN'S TONGUE AND SENSITIVITY TO FLAVORS CHANGE SLIGHTLY DUE TO JUST THE TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY ON THAT DAY.

THIS WHOLE CONTEST!
DON'T YOU REMEMBER KOUSEI'S JOB WHEN HE USED TO WORK HERE?!
OF CO-URSE

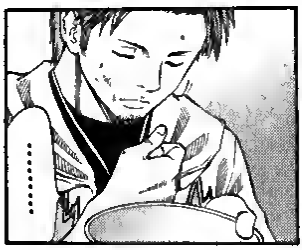
THAT'S WHY A GOOD CHEF MUST KNOW HOW TO ADJUST THE AMOUNT OF EACH SPICE AND SEASONING PERFECTLY.
IS THAT WHY OUR CURRY DOESN'T USE AN EXACT RECIPE?
OR ELSE HE CANNOT GET THAT SAME FLAVOR EVERY TIME
EXA-CTLY...
WE CAN'T USE THE SAME EXACT RECIPE EVERY TIME TO GET THE SAME FLAVOR EVERY TIME

HE CAN POINT OUT EVERY SINGLE SPICE USED IN KAYA'S CURRY JUST BY TASTING IT...
ALSO, THAT GUY HAS AN EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TONGUE...
THE ONLY THING THAT CAN WIN THIS DUEL FOR THEM...
THE MAN WITH THE LEGENDARY TONGUE!
NINOMIYA KOUSEI!
I REALLY WANT TO SEE...
BUT WHY ARE YOU MAKING THEM DO THIS INSTEAD OF SOMETHING EASIER?
.....
IS THEIR SENSE OF TASTE!


WHETHER OR NOT HE CAN SURPASS KOUSEI'S LEGENDARY SENSE OF TASTE.
KOUENJI MAKITO, THE MAN WHO DEFEATED ME!


HMPH!
ALRIGHT KOUSEI, TELL US WHAT SPICES HE USED.
SWISH SWISH

OKAY, DONE!
.....


.....

LICK

SNIFF

2 PARTS BAY LEAF, 1 PART CLOVES, 1 PART CINNAMON...
15 PARTS CUMIN, 8 PARTS BLACK PEPPER 2 PARTS CARDAMOM...
AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST...
0.01 PARTS CHILE POWDER!!
WAIT A MINUTE, WAIT A MINUTE! I DIDN'T PUT ANY CHILE POWDER IN THERE!
HE EVEN GOT THE PROPOR-TIONS?!
WHA?!
OH, WAIT!
HAH?

WHA ?!
THAT'S THE BOWL I WAS USING TO SEED THE CHILE PEPPERS EARLIER!
TO BE ABLE TO DETECT SUCH A SMALL AMOUNT OF CHILI AMONG ALL THOSE DIFFERENT SPICES...
THAT MAN NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME...

THIS GUY...
HAS THE STRONGEST SENSE OF TASTE IN THE WORLD!!
MY TURN!!
HERE!

SNIFF
IT'S OKAY, I CAN DO THIS...
YEAH I CAN'T DO THAT NOW.
JUST GIVE US THE SPICES.
KOUENJI, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE PROPORTIONS...
10 PARTS CARDAMOM, 10 PARTS CLOVE...
3 PARTS CINNAMON, 1 PART CUMIN, AND 1 PART CORIANDER...
.....
.....
LICK
CRAP...
BUT HERE'S WHERE THINGS GET TRICKY...
HE'S GOOD...

I STILL HAVE THE TASTE OF BLOOD IN MY MOUTH FROM OUR PUNCHOUT EARLIER...
MY TONGUE IS COMPLETELY USELESS!!
I CAN FIGURE OUT MOST OF THE SPICES FROM THE AROMA...
BUT...

CHILI PEPPER
...
2 PARTS
..
WHICH IS IT!?

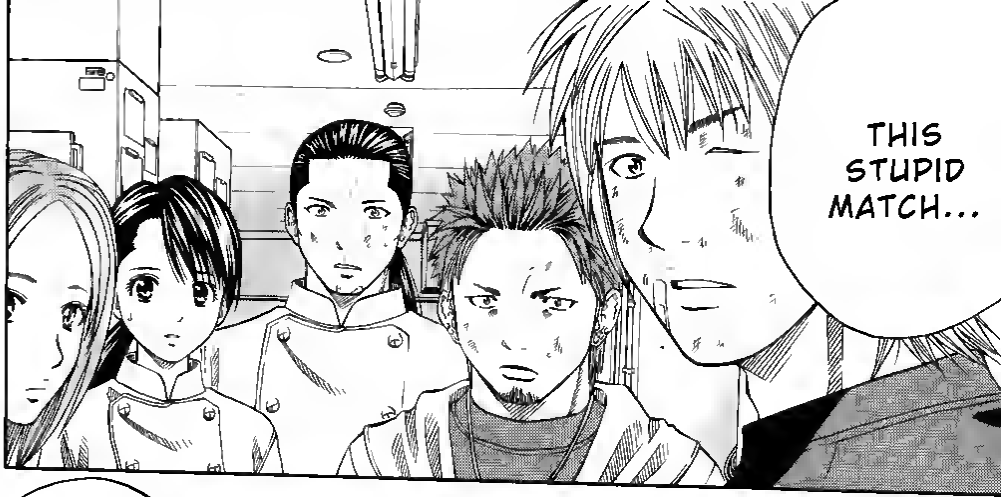
AS FOR THE BLACK PEPPER...

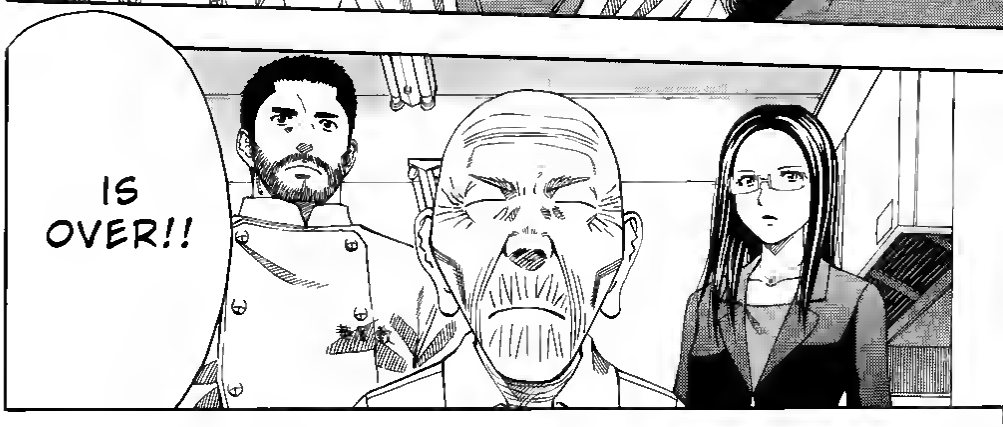
DAMMIT... IF I GET THIS WRONG...
ON-

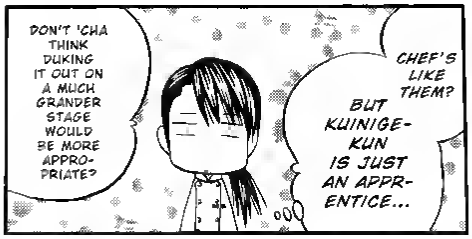
I KNOW THERE'S AT LEAST SOME BLACK PEPPER AND CHILI PEPPER.
1 AND 2 PARTS EACH... OR IS IT 2 AND 2?

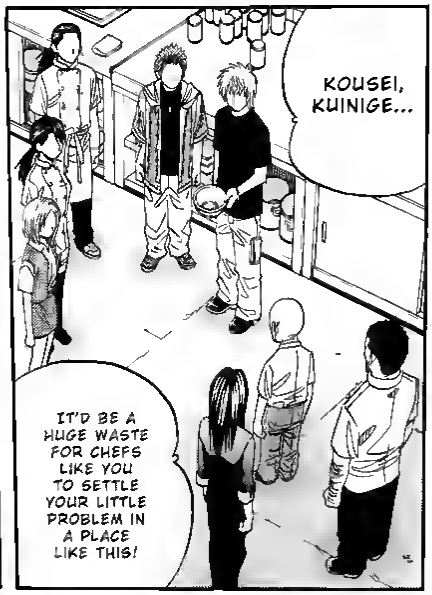
THIS MATCH IS OVER!!
!?
DON'TCHA THINK SO TOO? KUINIGE, KOUSEI?
IT'D BE SUCH A WASTE FOR YA LITTLE WAR TO END HERE!
IT'S GONNA BE A REAL FIGHT!!
I'M TAKING OVER THIS MATCH!!
!!?

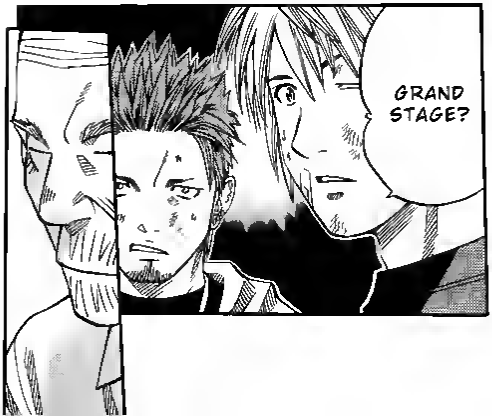
CHAPTER 105: EDIBLE FIGHT AND THE TWO NUMBER 1 MEN


THIS STUPID MATCH...


IS OVER!!

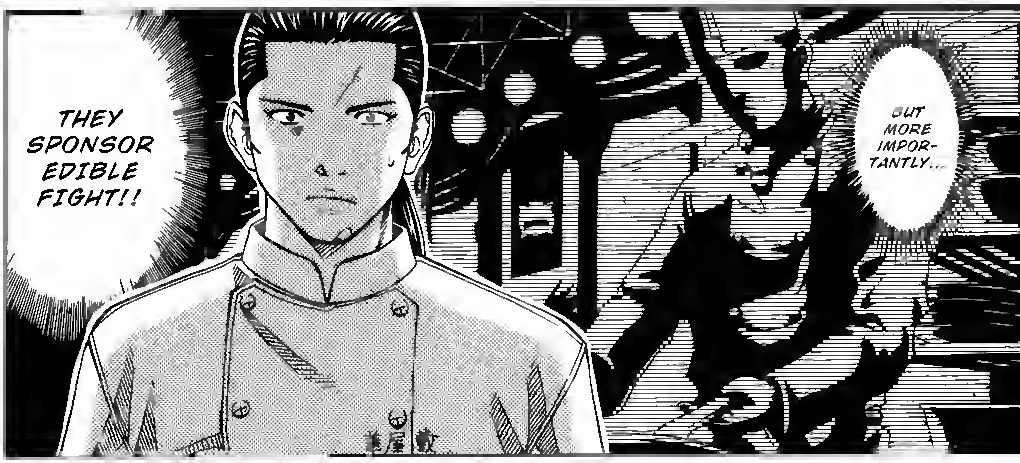

DON'T 'CHA THINK DUKING IT OUT ON A MUCH GRANDER STAGE WOULD BE MORE APPRO-PRIATE?
CHEF'S LIKE THEM?
BUT KUINIGE-KUN IS JUST AN APPR-ENTICE...

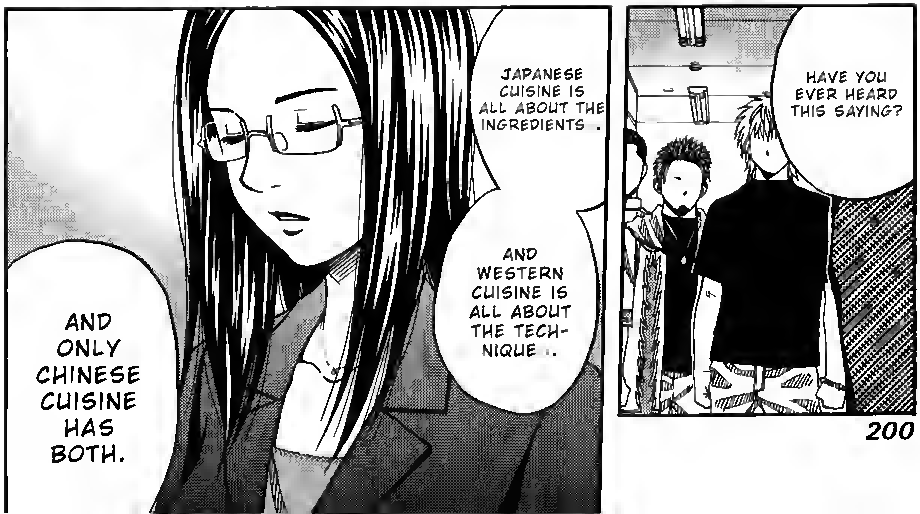

KOUSEI, KUINIGE...
IT'D BE A HUGE WASTE FOR CHEFS LIKE YOU TO SETTLE YOUR LITTLE PROBLEM IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!


GRAND STAGE?

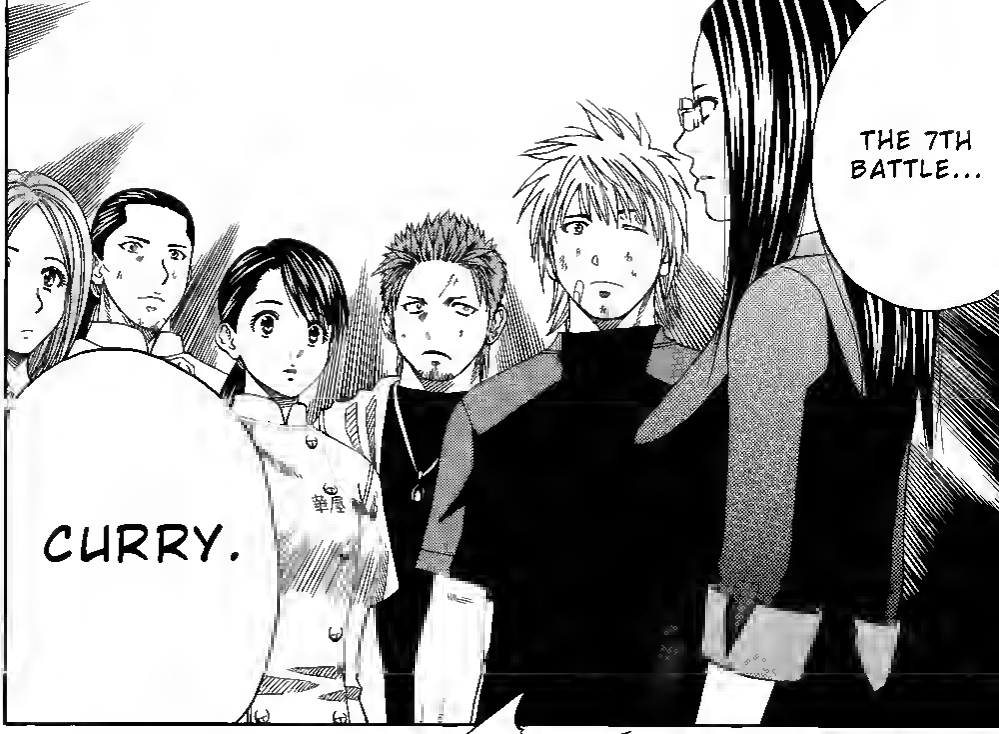
EDIBLE FIGHT?!
EDIBLE FIGHT!
YES SIR.
TOUDOU -SAN
WAIT, DO YOU MEAN?
MY APOLOGIES FOR THE LATE INTRO-DUCTION.
MY NAME IS TOUDOU AND I AM HERE ON BEHALF OF THE GLOBAL INTER-NATIONAL FOODS COMPANY.

THEY CONSULT WITH ALL LEVELS OF THE FOOD INDUSTRY, INCLUDING MANUFACTURING AND MARKETING.
THEY ARE BASED IN JAPAN, BUT THEY DEAL WITH FOOD COMPANIES WORLD WIDE.
G.I.F.C.
GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL FOODS COMPANY.
GIFC!!
THE "GLOBAL IN HER" WHAT NOW?
Frikin' long ass names


THEY SPONSOR EDIBLE FIGHT!!
BUT MORE IMPOR-TANTLY...

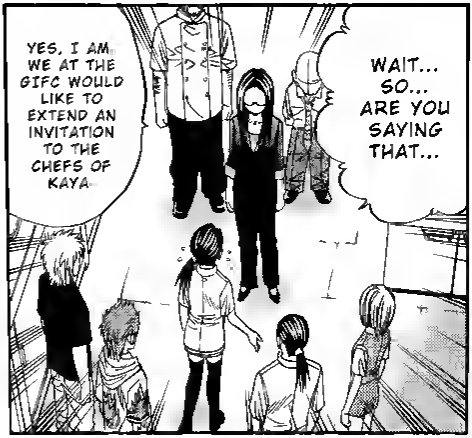

JAPANESE CUISINE IS ALL ABOUT THE INGREDIENTS.
AND WESTERN CUISINE IS ALL ABOUT THE TECH-NIQUE.
AND ONLY CHINESE CUISINE HAS BOTH.
HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THIS SAYING?

SO YOU'RE SAYING INGREDIENTS ARE THE ONLY THING IMPORTANT TO JAPANESE CUISINE..
AND THE OTHER WAY AROUND FOR THE WEST..
ONLY CHINA HAS BOTH... IT'S APPARENTLY A VERY COMMON SAYING.
INGREDIENTS VS TECHNIQUE..
EXA-CTLY.
SHE SAID IT FIRST..
HOW DARE YOU!!
TAKE THAT BACK!!
THE FUCK BRO!?
HAVE SOME PRIDE IN YOUR COUNTRY
CURRENTLY, WE HAVE SET A VARIETY OF THEMED BATTLES WHERE JAPANESE CUISINE CAN TRULY SHINE
1ST BATTLE: AN EVERYDAY DINNER
2ND BATTLE: SUSHI
3RD BATTLE: UDON/SOBA
4TH BATTLE: CONFECTIONARIES
5TH BATTLE: PASTA
CURRENTLY WE ARE ON THE 6TH BATTLE: BREAD. THE NEXT THEME AFTER THAT IS...
IT'S MAIN PURPOSE IS TO SHOW THE WORLD THE TRUE BEAUTY OF JAPANESE FOOD THROUGH CULINARY ART.
EDIBLE FIGHT IS NOT JUST A SIMPLE TV SHOW...


THE 7TH BATTLE...
CURRY.

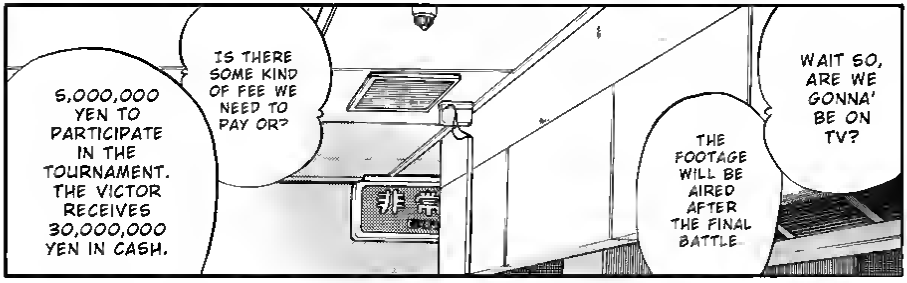
!!

I'LL DO IT!!
IT'S LIKE I'VE BEEN PREPARING FOR THIS MY ENTIRE LIFE!!
WHOA, HOLD UP!!


WAIT... SO... ARE YOU SAYING THAT...
YES, I AM. WE AT THE GIFC WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO THE CHEFS OF KAYA.

PARTICI-PATING AS AN INDEPENDENT IS ALSO PERMITTED.
WAIT, WHAT?
OH YOU CAN JUST PARTICI-PATE AS PART OF OUR TEAM!

IT AIN'T HELPIN' ME FOR NOTHING!
THAT OFFER MIGHT BE GOOD FOR YOU, BUT...

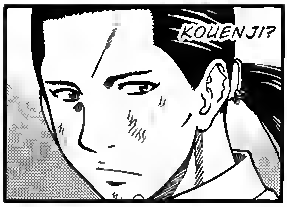

5,000,000 YEN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOURNAMENT. THE VICTOR RECEIVES 30,000,000 YEN IN CASH.
IS THERE SOME KIND OF FEE WE NEED TO PAY OR?
THE FOOTAGE WILL BE AIRED AFTER THE FINAL BATTLE.
WAIT SO, ARE WE GONNA' BE ON TV?

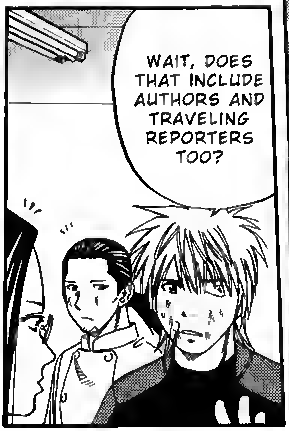
IT IS A GRANDIOSE EVENT OBSERVED BY FOOD JOURNALISTS AS WELL AS THE MASS MEDIA.
EDIBLE FIGHT IS NOT ALL ABOUT THE CHEFS...

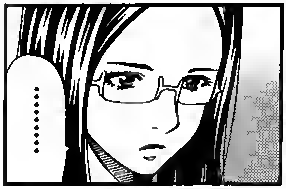
BE WARNED. CULINARY SKILLS ARE IMPORTANT OF COURSE, BUT EVERY PARTICIPANT MUST HAVE EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF CURRY HISTORY TO EVEN HAVE A CHANCE OF ENTERING THE FINALS.
THIS TOUR-NAMENT IS NOT EASY IN THE LEAST.

I'M GONNA KICK YOUR ASS SO HARD!!
AWW YEAH!! WE ARE SO GONNA SETTLE OUR SCORE THERE!!

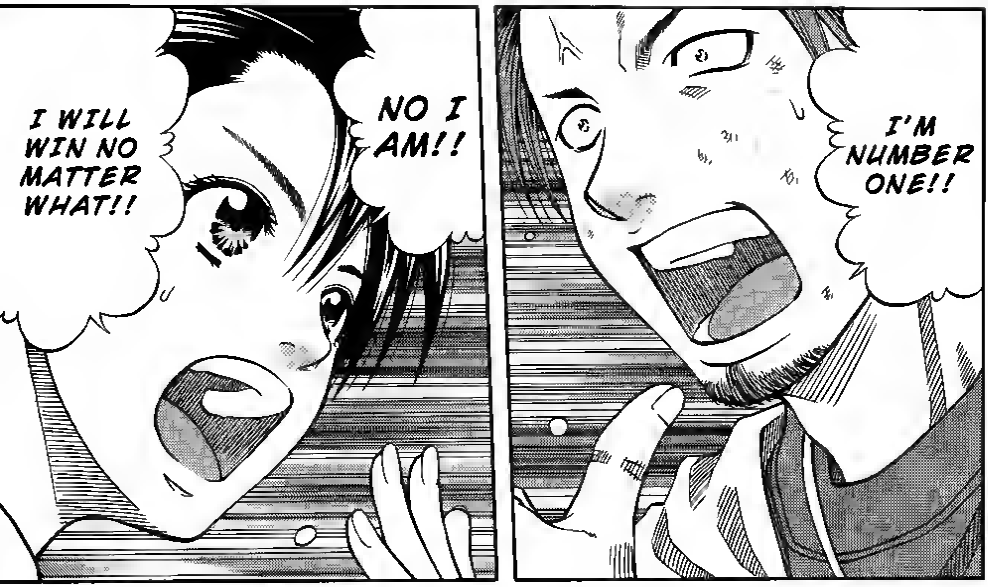
FOOD JOURNALISTS?!

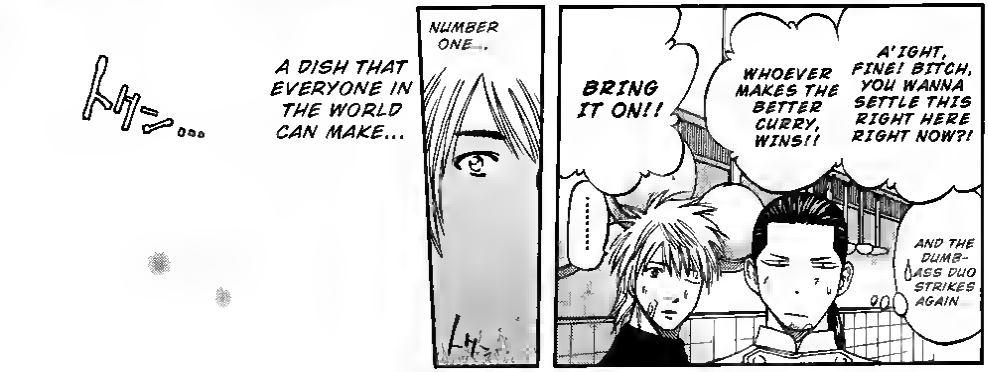






MAYBE HE WILL BE THERE...
IT DUN MATTER! I'M TAKIN' THAT CASH!
NO, I'M GONNA WIN!
YOU STUPID OR SOME-THING? YOU AIN'T GOT A CHANCE!
YES I DO! I'M GETTING FIRST PLACE!


I'M NUMBER ONE!!
NO I AM!!
I WILL WIN NO MATTER WHAT!!


AND THE DUMB-ASS DUO STRIKES AGAIN...
A'IGHT, FINE! BITCH, YOU WANNA SETTLE THIS RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW?!
WHOEVER MAKES THE BETTER CURRY, WINS!!
BRING IT ON!!
NUMBER ONE...
A DISH THAT EVERYONE IN THE WORLD CAN MAKE...
AND AMONG THOSE PEOPLE...

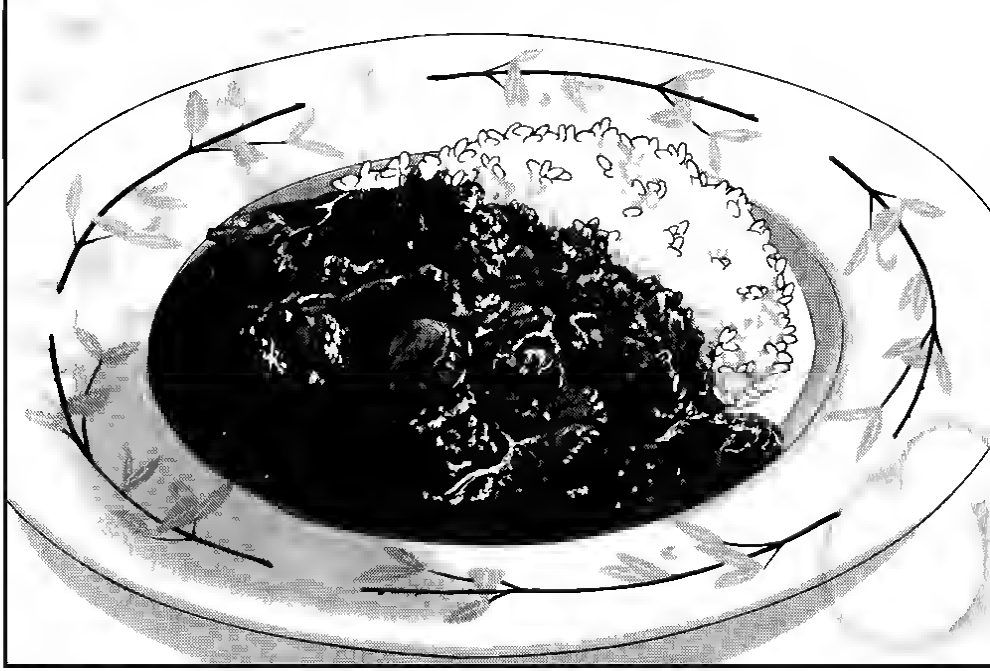
I WANT TO BE THE BEST!!
.....
REALLY...
KOU-ENJI?
THE HELL YOU DOIN'? YOU AIN'T IN THIS
KUINIGE -KUN?
EVERY LAST ONE OF Y'ALL...

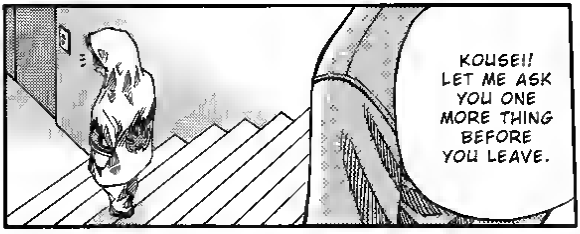
ヒュ

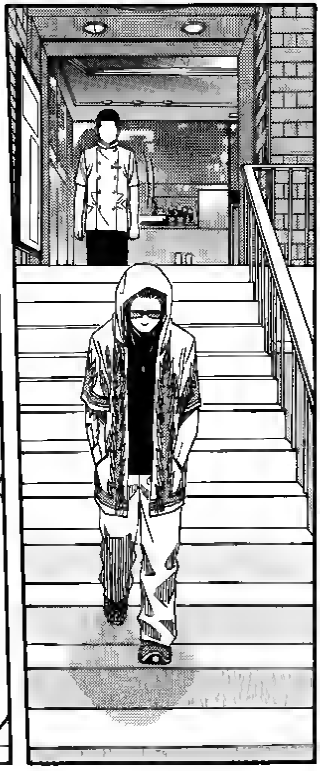
THIS GUY AIN'T NO APPRENTICE!!
THIS GUY-
FASCINATING...
THIS IS THE MAN MY BOSS WAS TALKING ABOUT.
KUINIGE-KUN?

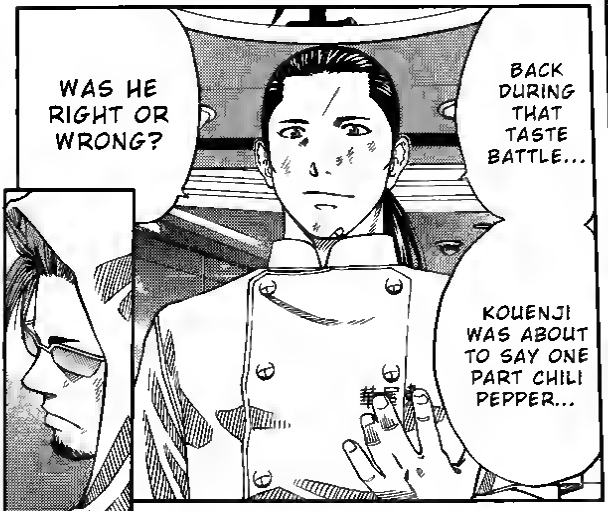
WANDERING AROUND ALL OF ASIA... MASTERING OVER 300 CURRY RECIPES...
A ONE OF A KIND CURRY MASTER.
THIS MAN IS...
DON'T EVER FORGET...

THIS EDIBLE FIGHT...
IS ALL MINE!!!
I AM KOUENJI MAKITO!!
THE NUMBER ONE MASTER OF CURRY!!




KOUSEI! LET ME ASK YOU ONE MORE THING BEFORE YOU LEAVE.




WAS HE RIGHT OR WRONG?
BACK DURING THAT TASTE BATTLE...
KOUENJI WAS ABOUT TO SAY ONE PART CHILI PEPPER...

I CAN'T WAIT TO GET BACK IN THE KITCHEN!
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG TIME...
TELL KOUENJI THIS FOR ME...
SO KOUENJI MAKITO HAS ACCEPTED OUR INVITATION...
I SEE...
THE TIME HAS COME...
ALL THE PIECES ARE IN PLACE ..
MY EDIBLE FIGHTERS!
WELL DONE, TOUDOU. I NOW WANT YOU IN HOKKAIDOU.

VOLUME 10 THE FATED MEETING IN OSAKA AND THE SPECIAL KATSU CURRY FLAVOR

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